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how to remortgage your home

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face: The end of Civilization?

HALF-PRICE BODEN SUMMER SHIRTS TOKEN 4 PAGE 14

SANTIAGO LYONVAP

Rise and shine Joanna Coles on the literary breakfast page 17

Blair in arms and artillery build-up

2,000 extra troops set for Kosovo

By Michael Evans, Philip Webster and Charles Bremner

BRITAIN is sending a further 2,000 troops, with tanks and artillery, to Macedonia to be part of an international force for eventual deployment in

Announcing the armoured battle group reinforcement in the Commons, Tony Blair said the extra troops were not being sent to invade Kosovo, but to be ready to implement a peace settlement.

The decision to send the 2,000 troops, backed by 14 Challenger tanks, 40 Warrior armoured vehicles and six AS90 self-propelled guns, will raise the British military presence in Macedonia to more than 6,300.

While the deployment of the Irish Guards battle group which will take up to 30 days, was intended to send a signal to Belgrade that Nato was still determined to form the core of an international peace force for Kosovo, the commander in charge of the alliance air cam-paign announced that he had asked for 300 more American aircraft, to bring the total 1,000. Other Nato countries have also been asked to send

more aircraft. Last night the Pentagon said that the request from General Wesley Clark, Nato's Supreme Allied Commander, was being considered seriously. The aircraft he wants include more Flós, Fl5s, AlO "tank-busters", radar-jamming EA6B Prowlers and refuelling tankers to allow bomber pilots to stay in the air over Yugoslavia for longer periods, while hunting for Serb forces and armour in

The US already has 500 air-craft committed to Operation Allied Force. The proposed increase in the number of American aircraft in the region may require President Clinton to call up members of the National Guard and Reserve. Other

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the way ahead

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INSIDE

"The captain told my father, your daughter is good for wife, for Serbian wife. One of them had sex with me, the other hit me, the others kissed me." Rape as a way of war.

What is now planned on-Kosovo's border with Macedonia and Albania is a mystery wrapped in

page 18 War reports Matthew Parris.
Peter Riddell..... Leading article...

- Simon Jenkins.

European countries, including Hungary and the Czech Re-public, may also be asked to give basing rights for the addi-tional planes because of overcrowding on Italian airfields.

effort came on the day that Serb troops carried out a deliberately provocative incursion over the Kosovo border into Albania. Although Belgrade denied any such incident, Serb troops exchanged gunfire with Albanian border forces and occupied the village of Kamenica, more than a

mile inside Albania. The occupation lasted a few hours before the Serb forces withdrew. Nato warned earli-er this week that it would treat any border incursions with the 'utmost seriousness".

The extra British troops being sent to Macedonia will mean that Nato forces in the country will total 14,000. The first elements of an 8,000-man Nato force to help refugees has also begun to arrive in Alba-nia. The second British battle

group will be based on the Irish Guards, commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Bill Cubitt, currently based in Germany.

There will also be elements

from the Green Howards, the King's Royal Hussars, 4 Regiment Field Artillery and a 150-man armoured reconnaissance squadron from the Windsor-based Household Cavalry Regiment, equipped with 20 armoured vehicles, mostly Scimitars. Another key element will be from 32 Regiment Royal Engineers, equipped with mine-clearance and bridging vehicles. The heavy armour will be sent by ship from the German port of Emden to Salonika, in Greece.

Although the reinforcement will double the number of British tanks, self-propelled guns and Warriors in Macedonia, Ministry of Defence sources said the battle group was con-figured only for enforcing peace, not for military inter-

vention in Kosovo.

Underlining this point in the Commons, the Prime Minister said: "They are being sent so that the UK can be in a position to play our proper role in the international effort to ensure the refugees are able to return to Kosovo in safety."

However, questioned by Paddy Ashdown, the Liberal Democrat leader, Mr Blair promised that Nato would not wait for permission from President Milosevic to enter Kosovo. "It's not a question of Mi-losevic having a veto," he said. He also insisted that a politi-cal settlement would have to be based on the Rambouillet accord, which Belgrade had refused to sign because of Nato insistence on sending an implementation force into Kosovo. "It must be a settlement that brings lasting peace to the en-

tire region," he said, emphasis-



A Kosovo Liberation Army guerrilla astride a donkey near the northern Albanian village of Kamenica yesterday. There were reports that the village had been set on fire by Serb forces who entered Albania and clashed with Albanian Army troops ing that the force that would eventually enter Kosovo would have to be Nato-led.

Jockey on

cheat charge

The jockey Graham Bradley

was charged with conspiracy to cheat after a long-running police investigation into race fixing. The 38-year-old is ac-cused of ensuring his borse

Man Mood did not win at

Warwick in November 1996 to

cheat moocy from bookmak-

ers. Mr Bradley was released on police bail and will appear

at Bow Street Magistrates'

Court today, a Scotland Yard spokesman said Page 44

Prodi vision

for Europe

Romano Prodi wooed the Eu-

ropean Parliament with his

federalist vision and promise of Blairite reforms, saying he

would work for a more integrated union with closer tax

policies, leading to 'true harmonisation". He also promised to make the Commission

more efficient and completely

Shipyard goes

up for sale

A task force has been set up by

ministers to find buyers for

find a buyer for the Glasgow

transparent.....

Barclays' £7m chief quits on day one

MIKE O'NEILL, the American banker hired as chief executive of Barclays two months ago, has quit after just one day in the office for health reasons (Caroline Merrell writes).

Mr O'Neill, 52, passed out in California last Wednesday after a bout of flu and his doctors found that he had a heart condition that could become dangerous if he was put under stress. Doctors in London confirmed the diagnosis on Monday, his first day with Barclays, and he quit yesterday. Mr O'Neill had a contract

worth £7 million over three

years. But in the end he received nothing.

He said: "I am deeply disappointed to give up what was for me the dream appointment and the culmination of my whole career. Though the condition that has been diagnosed is not life-threatening. I have concluded that it would be unwise to take up this

appointment." The bank will now reconsider some of the candidates who were beaten to the job by Mr O'Neill

Pressure grows on Woodhead to quit

THE pressure on Chris Woodhead to resign as Chief Inspector of Schools increased yester-day as his former wife intensified her campaign for a gov-ernment inquiry into claims that he lied about allegations, of an affair with a sixth-

Mr Woodhead will face criticism of his leadership of the Office for Standards in Education in a report by MPs next month. The House of Commons Select Committee on Education is expected to question the impact of his high-US saviour, page 3 profile style on teacher morale

and raise questions about the accountability of his office.

The immediate threat comes from the stream of revelations from his former wife. Cathy Woodhead has produced evidence to contradict a sworn statement by her former hus-band that his affair with Amanda Johnston did not begin until two years after both had left Gordano School, near

Bristol, over 20 years ago. David Blunkett, the Education Secretary, has dismissed previous allegations as tittle-tattle.

'Conspiracy', page II

Cricket caught out by a snowball



BY ADAM SHERWIN

SNOW stopped play on the opening day of the county cricket season yesterday. That is not quite as freakish as it seems. Last year the opening fixtures saw scarcely any action, but it was the second day

before rain turned to snow. This year play was cancelled between Durham and Worcestershire as 2in of snow fell on the Riverside ground in Chester-le-Street. In the other four matches only a handful of overs were bowled as cricketers and ground staff battled

with rain, sleet, thunder and

bad light. Weathermen are inclined to blame the cricketers, pointing out that the season, which has started in mid-April for a decade, used to get under way only at the end of the month. Many Aprils, like 1998, 1989.

1986, 1983, 1981, 1979 and so on were so cold, miserable and thoroughly waterlogged that they gave cricketers and the sun no chance to shine. .

In 1997 Northamptonshire were snowed off on May 7. In 1976, notoriously, it snowed on cricketers on June 2, but that

summer went on to be one of the hottest and driest of the

This year's sudden cold snap brought snow over most of Scotland and as far south as Derbyshire. The freezing ternperatures, coupled with heavy showers, sleet, hail and snow are expected to spread across southern Britain today.

the Govan shipyard, put up In Scotland Lothian and for sale by its Norwegian owners with engineering and con-Border police reported a surge struction operations in northin road accidents as more than a foot of snow made driving ern England. The aim is to yard before orders run out in

Chilly start, page 44 the summer.

ì

Army charges into battle by horse

FROM DAMIAN WHITWORTH IN WASHINGTON

IT is outnumbered, battered and fragmented in the face of Serb onslaughts, but the Kosovo Liberation Army is in no mood to surrender. Hitherto, the KLA has been a group whose international renown has far outstripped its effectiveness — hardly surprising when its fighting men go to war on a donkey. esterday they boosted their profile in America where almost 3,000 citizens are leaving to fight in their homeland. Grey-moustachioed men of

60 stand shoulder to shoulder with blonde women of 16 and 17, displaying a pride in their Albanian roots which has convinced them to forsake their lives in America and fight to the death against the Yugoslav Army and paramilitary troops. Thousands of

Albanian-Americans, most with no military training, are volunteering to join the KLA and wage guerrilla war on the oppressors of a homeland many have never seen. "My sisters are getting raped and my brothers getting killed. My father is already over there fighting and I want to go too," said Linda Muriqi, 16, as she signed up with 300 others at a New York rally. They were flying to Tirana three weeks before trying to join the KLA's struggle. Isa Kodra, a 19-year-old a student and a National Guard platoon sergeant, will help. "Maybe I can help save what is left of Kosovo. The reality is Nato will only respond when they see body bags. We will fill those body bags if necessary."

Ulster prisoner releases may be halted

BY MARTIN FLETCHER, CHIEF IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

THE Government may be forced to consider halting prisoner releases if the Northern Ireland peace process has to be suspended because of the deadlock over IRA arms.

That would not only jeopard-ise the scheduled releases of such figures as the Brighton bomber Patrick Magee and the Ulster Freedom Fighters commander Johnny Adair, but also increase the likelihood of the Good Friday accord unravelling during a summer of contentious parades and European elections.

Government sources conceded the possibility after another fruitless day of talks at Stormont and Sinn Fein's formal rejection of the Hillsborough declaration yesterday. Conservatives and Unionists have long demanded that the releases be halted in the absence of IRA disarmament and one source said: "If this doesn't work then the Government will be asked with more and more insistence why these releases are continuing.

To date 257 convicted terrorists have been freed on licence, but almost as many remain inside. Only yesterday, the fourstrong Balcombe Street gang that terrorised London in the 1970s were released.

The parties returned from a 12-day Easter break yesterday with no radical new ideas fo breaking the impasse caused by Sinn Fein's inability to deliver the IRA disarmament required by David Trimble.

Sinn Fein rejected the compromise proposed by the Brit-ish and Irish Prime Ministers on April 1 as a "rewriting of the accord" and Gerry Adams said: "None of us should underestimate the crisis which we're now in."

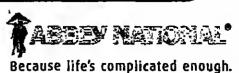




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Tony Blair's short speech was less theatrical than before, more carefully argued and in tone well judged. Flanked by all the senior fig-ures in his Cabinet (always a sensible precaudon), with the mysterious exception of the man who must find the money. Gordon Brown (always a worrying absence). Mr Blair rehearsed the familiar wormiliar determination. Beside him, Robin Cook nodded manically, George Robertson maintained a certain reserve. and John Prescott studied his

fingernails.
"As I said in my first Statement to the House of Com-mons," the Prime Minister reminded us, "this action will

Unable quite to recall Mr Blair's saying this, I checked the record. He had said the sufferings of the Kosovans would "not be ended overnight". Some 30 nights later. this seemed to understate. Not that the mood was mud-



cridcally of the Kosovo Libera-

tion Army (the KLA have mir-

aculously ceased to be terror-

ists) and was heckled angrily nous. "Grim" describes it betfor suggesting that they might be involved in drug trafficking. ter but support for the Government, though it has lost its froth, has consolidated - or Alan Clark (C. Kensington & that was how it felt. Few had Chelsea) made the mistake of much new to say. Sir Peter venturing praise for the Serbian people ("brave Christians") and was howled at for Tapsell (C. Louth & Horncastle), whose indignation had been Vesuvial last time, kept silent, perhaps humming "I told you so". Tam Dalyell made the mistake of speaking

this indiscretion. From now on there are good guys and bad guys and no shades between. Mr Blair's sobriety impressed but the spectacle of the British Left in bombing mode

is scary. There nothing more

belligerent than a reformed pacifist. Clare Short gave the Defence Secretary encouraging pats. Inclining to His Master's Voice, David Win-nick (Lab, Walsall N) pleased the Prime Minister by yap-ping ferociously at the heels of an imagined Milosevic. Mr Winnick is putting the "creep"

into mission-creep. William Hague sounded sane but his interventions on Kosovo have somehow lacked coherence. One remains unsure what, if anything, he is ac-

tually trying to say.

By contrast, Paddy Ashdown was crisp. The Liberal ance on the meaning of Mr Blair's new phrase: "permissive environment".

The phrase replaces Blair's former insistence that Nato troops would have to be invited into Kosovo. But what. asked Ashdown, is a permissive environment? We wondered whether it is what a squatter encounters, finding a window open and the householder absent.

But Blair refused to speculate and told Ashdown, in the tone of a pestered parent, that this was "all being consid-ered", adding: "This is a situaoon in which we have considered all the right opoons."

spluttered some doubting Thomas. Anyway, said Blair, "it's a mistake to say Milosevic isn't hurting". Ashdown had said nothing of the kind. Nobody doubted it was hurting. What some doubted was whether it was working. But only a few had any doubt that

Nato should keep trying. This is military action for a moral purpose, declared Blair. The fasodious shuddered at this dangerously close brush with a soundbite but a more downcast kind of rectitude soon reasseried itself.

Nobody at Westminster is crowing, praise be.

No bombshells dropped in sombre Blair war speech Dogs of war to be regulated

Robin Cook is to draw up proposals for regulating the ac-ovices of British mercenaries after the arms-to-Africa affair. The Foreign Secretary will sug-gest legal curbs that would apply to British military firms operating outside the United Kingdom and its dependencies.

The decision is the first response from the Foreign Office to the highly critical report from the Foreign Affairs Select Committee into the department's conduct over Sierra Leone and the breaching of a UN arms embargo. Mr Cook accepted many of the commi-tee's recommendations, including the call for a Green Paper on mercenaries to be pub-lished within 18 months.

Chipperfield to give up licence

Mary Chipperfield, the circus trainer fined for beating a young chimpanzee, is giving up the licence held by her company under which she was allowed to keep wild animals at her Hampshire property. A spokeswoman for Tesi Valley Borough Council said yesterday that an application to transfer the licence for the premises at Over Wallop, to an un-named third party, had been made in December last

Diagnosis delay linked to deaths

Delays in diagnosis by an NHS breast screening unit could have led to the deaths of up to 11 women, the Royal Devon and Exeter Healthcare NHS Trust said. The women were among ol found to have cancer out of 2,125 cases reviewed after failings were discovered in 1997 in the unit. The figures were released after the trust board considered the findings of an inquiry into complaints against John Brennan, the consultant radiologist in charge.

Language gap led to death

A communication breakdown between Japanese and British staff led to an engineer. Clif-ford Whitelock, 66, being crushed to death when a glass polishing machine was turned on as he worked on it at a television factory. Cardiff Crown Court was told. NEG and Tarmac were each fined £110,000 side Engineering of Caerphilly

Duck patrols on 24-hour alert

A duck called Beatrice was un-12 der 24-hour protection last night to stop developers evid-ing her from her nest and taking away her eggs. The organisers of a £!5 million project to modernise Bath's spas have confirmed that they wish to move the duck, which is hold ing up the development, and send her eggs to a wildfowl sanctuary for artificial incuba-

Railways are worse now than under BR By ARTHUR LEATHLEY, TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

THE railways are in a worse condition than they were under British Rail, according to a critical government report on Railtrack's first four years.

Railtrack, Britain's biggest rail company. is blamed for under spending on replacing worn-out parts of the system and for risking long-term deterioration of the network. The company is also accused of spending heavily on shortterm improvements but failing to invest sufficiently in changes that would bring long-term benefits.

Huge variations exist between regions in the quality of the network, the report says, with the Midlands and West Country faring worst, and Scotland and southeast Eng-

land doing best. John Prescott, the Transport Secretary, said that the report painted a "sorry picture of Rail-track's performance". He indicated that stricter regulation would be introduced and subsidies to the company would be

controlled more tightly. In addition, Railtrack faces the likely imposition of hefty fines if it fails to meet targets for improving train delays. It barely achieved half of last year's targets.

However, Railtrack defended its record and said that many of the failings had been in its first two years before it was privarised in 1996.The company, which makes a profit of more than £1 million a day, said the report had pointed out many improvements. It warned Mr Prescott that righter regulation could jeopardise its ability to carry out a £27 billion investment programme over the next ten years.

The independent study of Railtrack investment, by the international consultants Booz-Allen and Hamilton, is the most comprehensive carried out. It concludes that that the company's performance in renewing the network has been below expectations".

Although the report says that renewal of track has been better than expected, changes to other crucial parts of the network had fallen short of inidal targets. Planned major signalling schemes had been re-placed by remedial work. It says that, in the first two years. Railtrack made huge improvements in cutting the number of train delays attibutable to its own faults and those by contractors, but since then has made little progress. Gerald Corbett, Railtrack's

chief executive, said: "We accept many of the criticisms but the report does say we have improved punctuality. If polidcians want a regime in which they have greater control, they investment that we now offer. There are big problems in performance but our investment are many good things happening and Mr Prescott must not throw out the baby with the

William Hague arrives at Tunbridge Wells Grammar School yesterday for the launch of the Conservatives' local election campaign Hague begins low-key poll campaign

WILLIAM HAGUE shunned the na-Parties underplay their chances in town tional spotlight yesterday to launch his party's local election campaign at a school in true blue Tunbridge

Wells in Kent. The move sparked confusioo at Westminster over the Tories' de-clared aim of using the campaign to boost the party leader's public pro-file. Mr Hague deliberately ignored the main press launch in Londoo in favour of the low-profile visit to a grammar school with media access limited to the BBC and a news ageney. Tory officials said this was simply to avoid a press scrum disrupting the

Michael Ancram, the party chairman, insisted that Mr Hague was

By Tim Hames and Adam Sherwin

AFTER the Gold Blend cou-

ple, meet Chris and Debbie,

the Tory Blend pair. The Con-

servative Party will unveil a

married couple as the stars

of its new election broad-

casts, but at least this dnmes-

tie drama can claim brevity

as its saving grace.
In a concession to viewers,

missible, a mere two minotes

When the "blipvert" broad-

cast is aired in Wales tonight,

viewers will be introduced to

Chris and Debbie, represent-

atives of Middle Britain,

who will articulate what the

Tories see as the nation's

concerns around their kitch-

The pair, played by actors, are a typical young married couple without childreo.

Chris is a sales manager for

a computer company, Scot-tish, in his mid 30s, who sup-

ported the Conservatives un-

der Margaret Thatcher but

whn bolted to Tony Blair in

1997. Debbie is a part-time fit-

and forty seconds.

hall elections, reports James Landale

the Tory election strategy of portray-ing the party as the "champion" of lo-cal issues and local people against

the heavy hand of government.
But the confusion prompted La-bour to brand Mr Hague as a "deject-ed of Tunbridge Wells" who was "sheltering" in Kent rather facing the media in Loodon.
The Tory launch came as all parties

began fighting to establish bench-marks for what would and would oot be successful election results. The Tories insist that a net gain of some 400 leading from the froot" by taking the council seats on May 6 would reflect

mis. But the Liberal Democrats. whose campaign was launched by Paddy Ashdown yesterday. claim anything less than a gain of 2,000 would be a disaster for Mr Hague. This would bring the Tories back to their town hall strength in 1995 just before these seats were last contested.

At the same time, Labour claims that they are set for a gloomy result. potentially losing up to 2,000 seats. In practice, all parties are ooderplaying their own chances and overemphasising their opponents' prospects.

ing below what we got at the general election. We have a very bard campaign in front of us."
He dismissed Labour claims that

the Turies have to gain at least 1,400 seats as "hype" and he suggested that Labour might benefit from Tony Blair's current role as a war leader. The Turies also published a dossier of what they said were examples of Labour and Liberal Democrat "sleaze and incompetence" in local govern-

Mr Ashdown refused to comment oo Mr Hague's apparent relaunch and new strategy. "I never intrude on other people's grief," he said.

He said the Tories' claim to be champions of local democracy was

language people had used to talk about their lives. I devel-

oped the characterisation

Special attention has been

paid to getting the right kitch-

en table: "It isn't an Ikea ta-

ble, it is made io Britain. We

want a kitchen that looks like

everywhere, anywhere," Mr

Chris is played by John Macneill, 34, a Scot, and Deb-

bie by Jooeli Elliott, 29, from

London. The pair have a his-

tnry that might not make

them obvious role models:

campaign straight to local people. their corrent 29 per cent poll rating His visit, officials said, was part of and anything above would be a board are starting off on an opinion poll rational government. Chris and Debbie are Tory kitchen cabinet

and the setting."

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BONHAMS





John Macneill and Jonell Elliott as the "typical" Tories Chris and Debbie

ness instructor. English, in ber late 20s, who, after some agonising, stuck with the Tories last time.

hangover, Debbie is concerned about hospital waiting lists. In future broadcasts, they will chew over the alleged inevitability of the euro before deciding that something "nnattractive, unknown and unpopular" cannot be inevitable. The Shadow Cabinet will have nn role in the broadcasts. The couple will appear in

til the European elections in June - and possibly beyond. if they succeed in improving the Tories' electoral perform-

Conservative broadcasts un-

The man wbo created Chris and Debbie hopes the couple will prove as popular as the last pairing he helped to engineer: the Big Breakfast team of Johnny Vaughan and Denise Van Outen. Ceri Evans, director of presentation at Conservative Central Office, launched Johnny and Denise during his time as creative director behind Chris and Debbie is the same: "It's about making people feel comfortable with having the couple in their liv-

an ambition by shortening the length of party political broadcasts: "Less is more in communication terms. Any longer than a couple of minutes and you are intruding."

He worked nn a brief sketched nut by William Hague. "William wanted a reflection of what he had heard informally at countless 'Listening to Britain' meet-

ing rooms," be said. Mr Evans, 37, has achieved

Elliott, a former Grange Hill tomboy, starred io Anthony Shaffer's graphic play Murderer, which opens with a 20-minute depiction of a woman being disembow-elled. Macneill played the lead in a theatrical produc-tion entitled Gratuitous Ser

and Vinlence. Ceotral Office has told them not to talk about their roles, lest their political views contradict their portrayals. We picked the best actors for the roles. We did not pick them for their polities," Mr tion. She cannot be moved without a licence from the Department of the Environment.

Advice on safer sex is ignored

Only 25 per cent of adults have changed their lifestyle because of the existence of HIV and Aids, and 56 per cent have not taken the disease into account before having casual sex, according to a MORI poll for the Terrence Higgins Trust It found that 7 per cent of people had unsafe sex when starting a relationship. The number of newly-diagnosed cases of HIV infection rose to 2,828 in 1998. the highest annual total to be

Jail officers 'should be more like nurses'

By Richard Ford HOME CORRESPONDENT

PRISON officers should deal with offenders with the same caring attitude as nurses have for hospital patients, the Chief Inspector of Prisons says today. Sir David Ramsbotham calls for ruthless action by Prison Service managers to rid jails of a culture in which prisoners are treated as subordinates and staff resist change

Sir David's annual report makes a strong attack on oldstyle practices and attitudes. including the "dodging" of re-sponsibility by management. The Chief Inspector says: "There are masses of people who are motivated by wanting to work with prisoners. They

and improvements in condi-

feel there is something wrong with some of the old-style culture that treats a prisoner as somebody who is a subordi-

You need the same responsibility of care for a prisoner as a nurse has over a patient in hospital."

He calls on older staff in many of the 135 jails in England and Wales to change their approach towards prisoners to one of "human engagement", and urges Martin Narey, the new Director-General of the service, to mount a determined offensive against the old culture.

blame culture and it does the of influencing colleagues". name of the Prison Service no cuses some older officers in tice because staff have had the jails of maintaining the histor- guts to stand up to intimida-

STRAW TACKLES PROBATION SERVICE

Jack Straw has criticised the Probation Service for failing to take tough action on offenders who miss interviews. The Home Secretary said it was difficult to understand why offenders were able to miss three interviews before breach action was triggered. In an effort to get rid of the public impression that community sentences are soft, the community service order is to be renamed the criminal work order and a probation order is expected to become the community supervision order. Mr Straw onveiled plans to cut the number of local probation services from 55 to 42. The service will be headed by a National Director with chief probation officers, who will be paid by and appointed by the Home Office. Leading article, page 19

ic culture by "domination and "It is inward-looking, it is a intimidation, a pernicious way In some prisons, good pracgood," Sir David says. He ac-tice exists alongside poor pracdon, he says. Sir David accuses some jail staff of showing cynicism for programmes with prisoners, opposing the need to change long-established working practices and making continual challenges to the leginmate authority of the prison He says that too often exist-

ing industrial relations arrangements result in procedures being used that drag on for months, delaying and disrupting the implementation of improvements in the treatment of prisoners.

Sir David blames the management of the service and the Prison Officers' Association for the existing state of industrial relations.

He hopes that the changes can be implemented throughout the service without a battle in which a lot of people are wounded, although most senior prison governors would disagree because of the power of the Prison Officers' Association and its capacity to cause

calls on senior management in the Prison Service to be much in insisting on mainous at the failure of governors and area managers in some parts of the country to act on appalling conditions found in some jails and young offender

institutions.

☐ The Chief Inspector also highlights the growing number of prisoners over 60, including one 87-year-old in Wymott pris on who moves around with the aid of a Zimmer frame. In 1997, there were 837 prisoners over the age of 60 including 226 men serving sentences for sexual and violent offences. One 76-year-old man recently detained in Norwich prison had been arrested on his 52nd disruption. The annual report wedding anniversary.



THE TIMES WEDNESDAY APRIL 14 1999

HE TIMES WEDNESDAY APRIL 14 1999 HOME NEWS Barclays banked on US saviour

Dogs of var to be egulated The ideal man to revive an ailing bank ... **Caroline**

Merrell on a bleak outcome

THE appointment two months ago of Mike O'Neill, a 52-yearold American banker and former US Marine, as chief executive of a major British bank was accompanied by a blaze of

publicity.

Mr O'Neill, recruited from the Bank of America, was to unite the Barclays board in the wake of the sudden departure of Martin Taylor at the end of last year. In the event, the exit of Mr O'Neill was even more sudden: the man taken on to revive the bank's ailing fortunes lasted just one day because of ill-health.

hipperfield to

Distance is dela

a reward to death

Latitizet gap

Mr Taylor had left Barclays abruptly after falling out with other executives about the future direction of the bank. He received a £1.5 million payoff. The bank trawled Europe and America to find a replacement, and all the bank's top executives were considered.

Mr O'Neill appeared to be the perfect candidate, and the hank was prepared to pay him £7 million. He had spent 23 years in banking and had overseen the merger of two of America's biggest banks. He



"It's the clock we gave him

By Russell Jenkins

head-on crash, an inquest

was told yesterday. Jennifer

Reichardt was said to have

when the inflating bag knocked her backwards into

her seat's headrest with the force of falling off a building.

Her family is now calling

for car manufacturers to

place warnings on the steering wheels of cars with airbags, advising a minimum distance to sit from the wheel.

The other car in the collision

had no airbag, and the driver

The inquest at St Heleus.

Merseyside, is the first in Brit-

ain to consider whether the

force of an airbag inflating

contributed to a death during an accident. The case is being

followed closely by manufac-

turers after concern abroad.

especially in America where

airbags have been blamed

for a number of deaths, most-

ly of children. Ms Reichardt, 47, a legal secretary, from Rainhill, St

helens, was driving her Rov-

er 400 at an estimated 19mph

in January last year when she

was in collision with a

13-year-old Opel driven at ap-

proximately 27 mph. Dr Ken-

suffered a rare skull fracture

NORTH WEST CORRESPONDENT

AN AIRBAG may have caused a woman's death in a

walked away with a cut lip.

Mike O'Neill looked fit and tanned when photographed on his appointment, but colleagues said he looked tired on his brief return to the City

FROM GILES WHITTELL

IN LOS ANGELES

THE Californian banker whose heart

Barciays may also have been suffering

yearning to return to a city with blissful

financial officer of Bank of America he carned \$9.3 million (£5.6 million) in 1997

alone — more than enough for a San

trouble forced him out of his job at

from a troubled soul — caused by a .

climate, high tech health clubs and

world-class private healthcare.

Michael O'Neill had reason to be

bomesick, not least because as chief

firmed Anglophile, having spent seven years here as a banking consultant. At only 52, Mr O'Neill saw the job as the pinnacle of his career, and Barclays saw him as its saviour.

Unfortunately, those twin ambitions suffered a sudden reversal when Mr O'Neill had a severe bout of flu. He delayed his arrival in London, originally scheduled for March 26, and then, last Wednesday, he collapsed in California.

After extensive tests in America, he was found to have an arrhythmic (irregular) heartbeat. According to the US doctors, the condition could worsen under stressful conditions. They advised him against continuing with the Barclays job.

He immediately contacted Sir Peter Middleton, the group chief executive, who has been standing in since the departure of Mr Taylor. Sir Peter was understandably alarmed and advised Mr O'Neill to fly to London to discuss the matter.

He arrived in Britain last Sunday and the next day went to see the doctors, hired by Bar-clays, who had passed him fit originally. Their medical report backed the findings of the American doctors. The British

in head-on crash

Jennifer Reichardt: family

wants warnings in cars

ything he had seen in 17 years

of emergency medicine: This is the first case I have seen

where I suspected it might be

an airbag. I considered the

possibility that the injury was

caused by being thrown back

by an airbag against the head

Ernest Gradwell, a patholo-

gist, said that Ms Reichardt had died from head injuries

of a kind he had never seen

before from a traffic acci-

dent. She suffered a "very un-

common" fracture which

formed a ring at the base of

the skull. There appeared to

be no contact with the wind-

Reichardt received a force to the front of her skull from

Dr Gradwell said: "Miss

screen or steering wheel.

doctors - Harley Street specialists - said that it would not be in the bank's interests for the American to take up the position. After a brief discussion between Sir Peter and Mr O'Neill, it was decided that he would leave. He was offered no compensation and he did not ask for any. As Sir Peter said: "All he has cost us was the price of a few plane tickets

between here and America." Those who saw Mr O'Neill on Monday were shocked by his appearance. When he was appointed, he appeared to be the vision of Californian fitness, slim and tanned. On Monday, he looked extremely tired and was disappointed about the outcome of events.

Barclays convened an emergency board meeting at 7pm on Monday and yesterday issued a terse statement. At first the share price plummeted on the news but it then made a sharp recovery.

Barclays Bank without Mr O'Neill at its helm becomes much more of a takeover target. Sir Peter must now go through the whole recruitment process again.

which she could not have sur-

vived. It would be a similar

force to someone jumping

hicle examiner with Mersey-

side Police, thought that the

injuries were caused by the

airbag rather than the car's bulkhead. He agreed with

counsel that manufacturers

should do more to warn mo-torists of potential dangers.

James Byrne, counsel for the

family, had suggested a sim-

ple warning on steering wheels, advising a minimum

distance to sit from the wheel. Mr Byrne said: "The evi-dence is that an airbag which is supposed to be a safety fea-

ture has essentially shattered the skull of the driver. If it is

possible for a man driving a

13-year-old car to walk away

from a head-on collision with-

out an airbag in his car, it looks like Jennifer Reichardt

could have hobbled away in a

plaster had she not had an air-

bag in her car." Airbags in-flate at 140 to 200mph in one

hundredth of a second. Mr

Byrne said, and in the motor

industry their inflators are

treated as explosive devices. Paul Leyland, 22, the other

driver involved in the collision.

said that his car had failed to

negotiate a bend. His only in-

jury was a cut lip. Mr Ley-land was fined £250 for driv-

ing without due care and at-

tention. The inquest, with a

jury, is expected to end today.

PC Harry Walsh, senior ve-

from the top of a building."

Business, page 23 Comment, page 25

Why stress puts strain on heart

EXPECTING a chief executive to lead an international company when he is suffering from uncontrolled atrial fibrillation, an irregularly beating heart, is like expecting Damon Hill to win a grand prix with a car in which the timing has slipped and is backfiring. Barclays Bank must have hoped that after his pre-employment medi-cals, Mike O'Neill would fir-

ing on all cylinders. A pre-employment medical examination is a skilled task. requiring much experience and a wide-ranging knowl-edge of medicine. In many countries, such examinations include invasive investigations ranging from thallium scans for the heart to colonoscopies for the bowels.

in atrial fibrillation, the heart rhythm is irregularly irregular. This favours the production of small clots, which can cause a stroke. The tasks that one can undertake after developing atrial fibrillation depend on the underlying cause, and the degree of control that a doctor is able to achieve. A heart can be irretrievably damaged by an infection or other cause in which case it would be unwise to con-

timue with a stressful job. There are four chambers of the heart, which need to beat in the correct order. The two atria fill with blood, which periodically flows into the two ventricles. These pump the

blood either into the lungs or around the body. An irregular action makes itself felt as palpitations, and the inefficiency brought on by the arrhythmia may make the patient breath-

MEDICAL BRIEFING

less, faint and, if it is persist-ent, abnormally tired. With atrial fibrillation, the atria may beat up to 600 times per minute, and the ventricles will respond with up to 180 beats. Medication can slow the ventricular rhythm to 70 beats, making the palpitations

no longer obvious.

Atrial fibrillation may be part of the ageing process or the result of underlying disease. If the cause is an overactive thyroid gland, it is easily corrected. If it is coronary heart disease or high blood pressure, a defibrillator is

used to restore the rhythm. The fibrillation may be symptomatic of heart failure from other causes, which may be treated with betablockers, ACE inhibitors and diuretics. Rheumatic heart disease, damage to the heart valves or excessive intake of alcohol can also cause the condition.

☐ Dr Thomas Stuttaford is a medical adviser to Barclays. but has never been involved in the case of Mike O'Neill.

DR THOMAS STUTTAFORD

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Francisco's most exclusive gym, occupies the basement of the Bank of America

waterfront jogging path heavily used by health-conscious bankers.

The heart condition might have been spotted earlier in San Francisco, thanks

to the personal trainers and physicians

assigned to senior American executives by health clubs and medical insurers.

headquarters (members can surf the

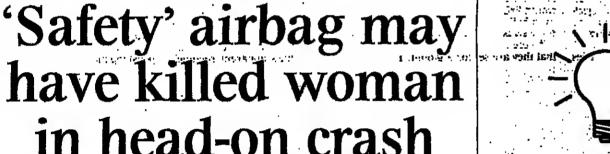
Internet and return e-mails while

exercising). Two blocks away is a

stream of top business figures. The Bay Club, downtown San

spend five minutes reading this ad.

BANKER'S HEART BELONGS TO SAN FRANCISCO









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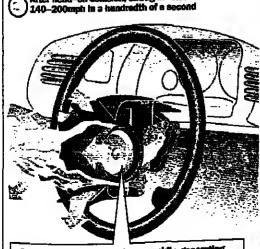


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at Whistoa Hospital, said her head injuries were unlike an-HOW AIRBAG MAY HAVE CAUSED DRIVER'S DEATH





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BALKANS WAR: VICTIMS OF CONFLICT

THE doctor turned away from the row of beds and looked at us with a physician's knowing eyes. Ivan, 14, said Dr Nenad Markovic, would probably die. In the background, heart monitors intermittently beeped and ventilators and respira-

A nurse collects medicine bottles damaged in a raid

No relief for the dying in Belgrade hospital

> Bombing by Nato jets is inflicting more suffering on injured civilians, writes Tom Walker in Belgrade

tors helping to keep the seri-ously injured alive hummed.

It was probably best that we did not meet Ivan's parents. Half of us were from Nato morning bombed the hospital where their only son is fighting for his life. A week ago the

same harbingers of Western justice had bombed Ivan's hometown, Pristina, inflicting the gaping stomach wound that began this cruel chapter in a young life.

One of Dr Markovic's fellow consultants, Dr Radoslav Svicevic, stood at the foot of the bed and tried to reassure us that there was still hope. Ivan, do you like Partisan? he asked. Ivan shook his head. "What about Red Star?" Despite the tubes and drips, a smile creased his face at the



and there was a sparkle in his blue eyes. To Ivan's right were five beds all of whose occupants were in comas, all victims of Nato bombs. A small team of doctors and nurses struggled to save a patient in

another room. No one paid much attention to us, an incongruous group of journalists dressed in green theatre gowns and slippers, as we left the intensive care unit. Dr Markovic said he feared all six patients in Ivan's row would die; certainly, the teen-

from Aleksinac, and the young

Ivan, he said, had suffered severe injuries to his stomach, spleen, liver and pancreas. and was also suffering from peritonitis. "He is in a very poor state," said Dr Markovic. "The wall of his abdomen is destroyed, and he will need many more operations if he is to make it." As we turned around for a final look, fvan

managed a feeble wave. Given Nato's track record of blurring the distinction between military and civilian targets, the country's main hos- Belgrade's military medical academy - was probably living on borrowed time. At 4am yesterday missiles rained down on an adjacent hangar that had once housed army lorries. At least two projectiles grazed the 14-storey hospital, blowing a hole in the entrance and smashing win-dows on several floors. Pa-

ing their frustrations." Some of the worst damage was in the cardiology unit, where Miroslav Jovic, 74, suf-

ON OTHER PAGES

In the lecture theatre. Dr

Aca Jovicici, the director of the

hospital and a neuropsychia-

trist, made a few observations

about behavioural patterns of

Western leaders. Those who

did this knew there were sick

people from all over the coun-

try here," he said, beneath a

military shield dating army

said. 'What they have done is

the dance of Satan, and the

human world must stop this

action. These rich countries

have no culture but are ruled

by psychopaths who are releas-

medicine in Serbia to 1844. "Everybody knows the hypocrisy of America," he debris. There would have been many more injuries had the staff not taped up the windows

a night earlier.
"He has an acute myocardial infection and he now has bad head lacerations. It's a complex situation and he's drifting in and out of consciousness," said Dr Jovica Lukic. He added: "We have many questions, but the only one we care about now is

On the 13th floor, one of the patients who was awakened by her bedside window imploding was Dragana Paster 23. A few hours earlier surgeons had removed a tumour from her stomach. Wheeled into a corridor, she faced the press jostling for space around

her array of drips.
What would she say to the pi lot of the jet, someone asked. "I could only wish for his child to have a day like I did," she said. "What did she think about Kosovo?" Her response was firm. "Kosovo is part of Serbia."

tients were hit by glass and de-bris, and staff contemplated evacuating the building. Alliance fears a spy in its ranks

> FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN WASHINGTON

AMERICAN and Nato officials fear that a spy within the alliance may be tipping off Bel-grade about when and where to expect airstrikes.

On at least three occasions Serb authorities have cleared people from target sites shortly before they were struck, raising suspicions that President Milosevic is receiving advance warning of some Nato attack plans, according to US news reports citing officials in Wash-

ington and Brussels.
General Wesley Clark, the
Nato Supreme Allied Commander, did not rule out the possibility of espionage at a news briefing yesterday but he said that steps were being taken to stop secret military plans falling into Serb hands. "Nato remains very vigilant in terms of protecting the security of its operations, and we are taking all appropriate measures in

that regard," he said. Last week a Serb military barracks was evacuated when an urgent radio message was received ordering everyone out of the building "minutes" before the target was hit by Nato bombs, the officials told ABC television news.

Similarly, although Nato had given a warning that it might strike official buildings in the centre of Belgrade, the Serbian Interior Ministry was reportedly "buzzing with activity" on the night of April I. The following night it was completely deserted when it was struck. While the building was strill huming Serb police at the still burning Serb police at the scene told local reporters the ministry had been "evacuated

on time".
US officials are also said to be concerned that Serb police "suddenly" sealed off a bridge to traffic immediately before a

Nato airstrike.

Any leakage of bombing plans would leave Nato planes vulnerable to the Serbian air defence system since an "am-bush" could be laid for the at-tacking planes. Nato officials are said to have tightened security surrounding operational plans while a hunt begins for the nameless suspected spy, whose nationality is also

unknown.
Only the most senior military planners in Nato would have access to the top secret bombing plans. "If there is such a spy, we are talking about a top-level individual," an official in Washington said.

BALKANS SUMMARY

Italian MPs vote to send troops

ma, the Italian Prime Minister, passed the first hurdle in a critical debate on Kosovo yesterday when the Senate voted to approve the sending of 2,000 Italian troops to take part in 'Allied Harbour', the Nato humanitarian mission in Alba-

nia (Richard Owen writes).

But the resolution emphasised that the troops be used only in "logistical, bumanitarian and bealth support roles", and ruled out "any military ground intervention" in Yugoslavia. The resolution faced a stormier passage in the Lower House. where Signor D'Alema's majority largely depends on Communist MPs vehemently opposed to the Nato air raids.

Russian convoy row

Belgrade: A Russian aid convoy arrived in the Yugoslav capital after a two-day diplomatic row with Hungary over its conteots. The 68 forries were blocked because they included eight fuel tankers which Hungary feared could be used for military purposes, so violating the United Nations Security Council arms embargo oo Yugoslavia. Only four tankers were allowed into the country and Russia agreed to remove five armoured vehicles. (AFP)

War criminal jailed

Sarajevo: This city's cantonal court jailed Goran Vasic, a Bosnian Serb arrested in a February 1998 "sting", for ten years for war crimes against civilians and prisoners of war during the Bosnia War. But lack of evidence meant Vasic was acquitted of the 1993 killing of the then Deputy Prime Minister. Hakija Turajlic, who was shot at a Serb checkpoint through the open door of a United Nations armoured vehicle. The prosecutor will appeal, seeking a harsher sentence. (Reuters)

Australian protest

Melbourne: Australia said it was seeking a visa for Malcolm Fraser, the former Prime Minister, to go to Yugoslavia and seek the release of two captured aid workers accused of spying Alexander Downer, the Foreign Minister, said he was also summoning the Yugoslav Ambassador to deny allega-tions that Steve Pratt and Peter Wallace had been spying for Australia and to express deep coocern about a trial they would face. (Reuters)

'King' backs bayonets

Johannesburg: King Leka, right, the exiled preteoder to Albania's throne, said that Nato needed to send ground troops to Kosovo and that only self-determination for ethnic Albanians there would bring peace to the region. "You cannot hold ground by air power. The only way to hold ground is by a young 17-year-old with a bayonet," he said at his heavily guarded South African



Vatican in pill protest

Rome: The Vatican criticised the distribution by United Nations agencies of the "morning after" pill to raped Kosowa refugees. Archbiship Elio Sgreccia told Awenire, an Italian religious journal, that the pill acted to abort any foctus. Etc. nic Albanian refugees have told of atrocities by Serb forces including mass rape. The Vatican withdrew its contribution to Unicef after the pill's use during the 1992-95 Bosowa was when raped girls as young as ten ricked meanancy. (APP) when raped girls as young as ten risked pregnancy. (AFF)





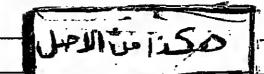
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Strikes on bridges strangle supplies to Kosovo

THREE weeks ago General Wesley Clark, Nato's Supreme Allied Commander, memora-bly warned Belgrade that the aim of Operation Allied Force was to "systematically and progressively attack, disrupt, degrade, devastate and ultimately destroy those [Yugo-slav] forces and their facilities

and support".
Nearly 6,000 sorties and 1,700 bombing raids later, the Nato air campaign has succeeded, despite the poor weather, in inflicting a huge amount of damage to about 200 fixed sites, but the minimum of damage to mobile targets - Yugo-slav Army, police and paramilitary units in Kosovo.

The attacks on Yugoslav troops in Kosovo began in the first week of Operation Allied Force at a time when the main focus was on destroying or disrupting the integrated air defence system. But each day, as the air campaign progressed at a steady rate. Nato officials had to admit that elements of the Yugoslav Army and Ministry of Interior police were still operating effectively against

the Kosovo Liberation Army. While this was unfortunate for General Clark whose statement of intent on March 25 may have given the impression that the Kosovo troops' days were numbered, the American commander knew ihat the only realistic way to affect the operations of the least during the initial stages of the campaign - was to attack other targets, many of them hundreds of miles away.

The town of Novi Sad, well to the north of Belgrade, has been hit almost as many times as Pristina, the capital of Kosovo. This is because it is the location of Yugoslav Army barracks, an oil refinery, strategic roads and bridges, all of which have a direct link to the operations in Kosovo.

The oil refinery has been hit several times, reducing, if not eliminating, its capability to turn crude oil into fuel for the tanks and armoured vehicles in Kosovo.

Similarly, the oil refinery at Pancevo near Belgrade has also taken many direct hits. The military would argue that the refineries' value for President Milosevic lay in their ability to support his war machine. Roads and bridges are, in military parlance, "lines of communication", and oil refineries are the lifeblood of an army in action.

General Clark's strategy, following well-practised rules. has been to try to strangle the arteries leading to Kosovo, cutting off supplies and supply routes to isolate the 40,000 Yugoslav Army and paramilitary

In three weeks, according to General Clark's damage assessment yesterday, Nato cruise missiles have managed



to destroy 70 per cent of Yugoslavia's oil, petrol and lubri-cant stocks. The oil refineries at Novi Sad and Pancevo are probably beyond repair.

In other moves to create a sense of isolation for the Yugoslav forces in Kosovo, Nato has succeeded in doing sufficient damage to the country's air defence system to force the troops to take cover because they know they can no longer rely on the Yugoslav Air Force or surface-to-air missile batteries to protect them.

Guthrie, the Chief of the Defence Staff, said yesterday that more than 50 surface-to-air missile sites had been attacked, the majority of them destroyed. More than half of the Yugoslav Air Force's 16 MiG29s have also been de-

the ground. Although General Guthrie and other commanders have been reporting each day that they have intelligence of rapidly deteriorating morale among the forces in Kosovo, the physical evidence is less reassuring.

stroyed, either in the air or on

Only occasionally has Nato been able to present evidence that the stranglehold strategy has produced results on the ground.

For example, it was claimed that, arone stage, fuel shortages had immobilised the 549th Motorised Brigade, a Kosovo battle group, and that it had had to wait for fuel to arrive before it could move out of harm's way.

Although one of the reasons for the Yugoslav Army's present strategy of hiding from Nato bombers may be to

preserve its dwindling fuel stocks, the unexpected incursion over the Kosovo border into Albania yesterday indicated that Mr Milosevic's forces are not yet so weakened that they are ready to give up mili-

tary operations. Strangling the forces in Kosovo is not General Clark's only strategy, although it is the one which ultimately will decide whether Nato's air campaign has been a success or failure. The wider strategy is to cause long-term damage to Mr Milosevic's military infrastructure.

The choice of targets bears this

Although Nato is not providing a running total of every category of target hit, it can be estimated that more than 10 air-fields, at least 20 army headquarters and facilities, 15 or so Ministry of Interior Police and security sites, and about a half a dozen factories which Nato insists had a military function. have been attacked.

Bridges will remain among the most sensitive of targets, particularly after the missile attack on the railway bridge near Leskovac on Monday which hit a passenger train.

killing ten people.

Assuming that General Clark has many other bridges on his list of targets, the risk of civilian casualties will rise. Already up to 20 bridges have been hit. They include four in or near Novi Sad, a road and rail bridge at Kusumlija, and two others at Leskovac. Some of these were hit because they contained vital fibre optic cables, others because they were key routes for fuel lorries

Relics of Second World War hinder RAF's effectiveness

Outdated bombs frustrate Harrier pilots, writes John Phillips in Gioia del Colle

AN ANTIQUATED range of weaponry, including some equip-ment dating from the Second World War, has handicapped the fighting capacity of RAF Harrier GR7 ground attack jets during the three-week-old air conflict, mili-

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tary experts say.

The pilots of No. I Fighter
Squadron based at Gioia del Colle
in southeastern Italy this week
adopted new "cloud-busting" techniques, for the first time dropping free-fall 1,000lb bombs through bad weather that previously pre-vented them from hitting Serb targets without an unacceptable risk

of inflicting civilian casualties.

But the latest attacks, deemed to have been successful, are believed to have been heavily dependent on guidance from SAS units on the ground who are identifying targets for the E20 million jump jets. Such support may not be available later in the conflict and new weapons commissioned during the Gulf War to match the Ameri-

not expected to go into service for another two years.

The RAF has not disclosed how many bombs it has dropped suc-

can air-fired cruise missiles are

pact on the Serb military machine. inviting sceptics to consider how people at home would feel if simi-lar raids were made on Britain.

The threat to their lives from Serbian anti-aircraft gunners when they are in the air means they have no time to be bored. "When you are operating in a live theatre you never have to motivate yourself," one Harrier pilot said. "We know that the Serbs are a very capable outfit. When you see Sam missile activity, it tends to keep you on your toes."

cessfully, but it has acknowledged

that as many as 11 missions had to turn back because of cloud prevent-

ing them dropping laser-guided

allow them to drop cluster bombs

for the first time. But the pilots' frustration is clear from the atmos-

phere in the Apulian bar where British pilots while away their

time discussing tactics and drink-ing cocktails. Harrier pilots insist

that their efforts are having an im-

The weather cleared last week to

Paveway II bombs.

But it is clear that the pilots would welcome the new weapons: the Storm Shadow and Brimstone missiles would match the Ameri-



A Harrier at Gioia del Colle

can air-fired cruise missiles, which can be aimed in thick cloud. Storm Shadow, which is being

built by British Aerospace, is a long range stand-off attack missile that will combine pinpoint accuracy with effectiveness.

Also expected to be available for Harriers within two to four years is GEC Marconi's Brimstone raissile, which will replace the BL755 cluster bomb to provide a lethal anti-armour capability while minimising the risk to attacking

The cluster bomb entered RAF service in 1972. The standard 1,000lb Paveway II general purpose bomb has been in service since 1979. Some of these bombs have Second World War casings that have been repacked and are still in service, an RAF source said. The newer 2,000ib Paveway III is also available to the Harriers and

not been dropped by them yet.

The prototypes of Storm Shad-ow and Brimstone are being tested and developed at RAF Boscombe Down near Bournemouth. RAF officers say that the test programme could not be speeded up even if more money was made available by the Government. But some analysts believe extra funding could help to widen the range of the

Harriers more rapidly.

The RAF argues that it would be blinkered to judge the success or otherwise of its efforts by statistics alone. As one RAF source put it: "The idea is not to make Serbia cease to exist. The idea is simply to stop the humanitarian atrocities."
RAF sources say that a mistaken

public perception of warfare has. been created by films such as Star Wars in which the enemy is vaporised. In real combat where civilian casualties are unacceptable, there are different kinds of strike. "If you want to take out a tank, for example, you can take out its barrel so it can't shoot, take out its optics so it can't aim or take out its crew. You can take out its tracks or its engine to prevent it being used. You

don't have to vaporise it."
However, if the introduction of new weapons is not accelerated, the RAF may see itself sidelined by the US Air Force.



The bridge and train at Leskovac, hit by "uncanny" accident

'Error' led to train bombing

FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN BRUSSELS

NATO yesterday gave a detailed account of what it called the "uncan-ny accident" that led one of its pilots to hit a passenger train in Serbia with two guided bombs, kill-

ing ten passengers.
General Wesley Clark, the
Supreme Allied Commander in Europe, said the pilot had launched his first laser-guided bomb several miles from the railway bridge over the river Morava at Leskovac on Monday. He steered it towards its target visually by remote control.

"As he stared intently at the desired aim-point on the bridge, at

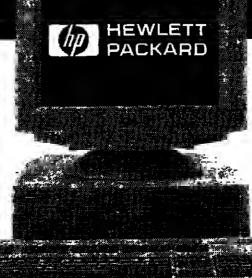
the very last instant he caught a flash of movement that was the train coming in. It was the last second. Unfortunately he couldn't dump the bomb at this time. He realised what had happened was that he had not hit the bridge, he had hit the train."

The pilot compounded the disaster by making a second approach to the bridge. "He aimed at the other end of the bridge... unfortunately at the last minute he realised the train had slid forward... by striking the other end of the bridge he actually caught the train."

The pilot and Nato regretted the loss of life, said General Clark. Belgrade has accused the allies of deliberately targeting the train.



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BRITAIN yesterday accused Serb forces of systematically raping ethnic Albanian women as the first victims recounted horrific ordeals.

Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary, said that Serb security forces were using a barracks near the Albanian border for the repeated abduction and rape of Kosovan Albanian women and girls. Human rights officials said that the pracoce — a war crime — was being used to terrorise and destroy the community.

We are now getting a pat-tern of repeated reports that young women were separated from the refugee columns and forced to endure systematic rape in an army camp at Djakovica, near the Albanian bor-

der," Mr Cook said. The reports, from refugees fleeing into Albania, have taken time to emerge because of the women's reluctance to tell of their experiences, "It is a source of shame in their society as well as great shame on those who carry out such appalling crimes," he said, adding that the number of indeElizabeth Judge

reports on the desperate shame felt by Muslim

women

pendent accounts gave the tales "a ring of corroboration". Several victims gave harrow-ing accounts of their ordeals yesterday. Many remained nameless, fearful of the stigma attached to rape in a mainly

Muslim society.
One victim, "Drita", described how she and seven other women were separated from their families. Wringing her hands and speaking in fal-tering tones, she told a BBC reporter that they were gangraped by Serbian soldiers and that four of the women were later killed. One was seven

months pregnant.
She said: They started to shoot everywhere and then they told us to leave the house.

Four of them were with masks. One was from my village, he started to hit me and the others. The captain told my father, your daughter is good for wife, for Serbian wife. One of them had sex with me. the other hit me, the others

In a voice racked with disbelief, she continued: "At that moment I thought God doesn't exist. I thought they wanted to kill me, but no. They didn't want to kill me. I wanted to kill myself. Nobody knows what really happened to me." She added: "My friends think I am crazy when I

scream at night."

An older woman from the same north Kosovo village alleged that soldiers separated women from their families and then raped ten by the roadside. "They said to the girls: 'You are beautiful, You are for me. We are not going to shoot you, but we want your families to see what we are doing." They threw the girls to the ground, and then with their knives, they tore every part of



An ethnic Albanian boy queues for food at a refugee camp near Tirana yesterday. Aid workers have been hindered by banditry and feuding

An elderly man said that soldiers forced him to watch as a family member was raped in front of him. He said: "I have seen it with my own eyes. I couldn't move. I had a Serb soldier either side of me. They wanted me to see it." Human rights groups said

that rape was being used as another way of destroying the ethnic Albanian community. Helen Bamber, Director of the Medical Foundation for the Care of Victims of Torture, said: "Rape is being used as a weapon of war ... It is not

only the rape but the blatant

BALKANS WAR: THE REFUGEES

way in which it is taking place that is so disturbing. It is an attempt to destroy as much of the cohesion of the community as possible."

investigators from the international War Crimes Tribunal in The Hague arrived in Albania to begin gathering evi-

dence. Silvia Miria, director of the Counselling Centre for Women and Girls in the Albanian capital, Tirana, has already amassed the testimonies of more than 100 witnesses to Serb acts of rape and sexual

gy of the Serbs just as it was a strategy used by the soldiers in Bosnia. It takes a great deal of courage to speak about it, but these women believe they have been victims not only of rape but of war crime. It is the only

Battle spills into Albania



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after clashes on border

Thousands of Albanians flee frontier villages as Serb forces in Kosovo invade neighbour, writes Sam Kiley in Kukes



CLASHES on the Yugoslavia- But, so far, they have resisted Albania border escalated into the temptation to retaliate a Serb invasion yesterday, sparking fierce fighting after five days of shelling.

The incursion by Serb forces followed a now-familiar pattern from Kosovo, including the burning of homes, and attacks on civilians. The Albanian Government denied there had been an invasion but the incidents are likely to stiffen the resolve of the Pentagon.

The Albanians had been ordered to resist Serb border provocations. Army bases have been set up several miles from where the Serbs have fired into Albanian territory.

Yesterday Belgrade clearly intended to raise the stakes in the region by threatening Albania with war, after the Government has enthusiastically endorsed plans for 8,000 Nato troops to be sent here and called for an even greater number.

Serb forces yesterday took Kamenica, a hamlet close to the border, close to a key supply base for the Kosovo Liberation Army (KLA) after shell-ing it for several days, Petro Koci, the Albanian Interior Minister, said.

Local people fled the area. already been plagued by ban-ditry and a tradition of blood feuding among clans which had created severe difficulties for aid groups trying to help refugees as well as for Nato special forces soldiers trying to get into Kosovo to illuminate mobile Serb tar-

Yesterday morning the Albanian border police were at-tacked by Serbs who then charged into Albania support-ed by mortar and artillery fire. Between 3.000 and 4.000 people fled the area before the Albanian Army joined the battie. By yesterday afternoon, Albanian television said that the Serb forces had withdrawn across their own border.

Yugoslav generals and ministers have repeatedly warned all countries hosting the rebel KLA and Nato forces that they risk being attacked. There is no question that Albania, which has absorbed 314,000 refugees from Serb "ethnic cleansing" atrocities in Kosovo, has been giving the rebels a free hand to organise attacks on Serb positions from inside Albania. Albanian artillery positions

have been reinforced along its northern border with Kosovo. against Serb shelling. "We have seen the flames from the Padesh. |a small hamlet the areal," said Pier Gonggrijp. an observer with the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), which

monitors the border. Artan Jakupi, an OSCE translator, said he saw his own bouse in Kamenica burning, along with several others. "I was expecting this to happen. They have been firing at

us," he said. The Interior Minister and observers said they thought that about 100 Serb troops took part in the invasion which came about five days after the KLA had tried to send about 600 men into bat-

tle in eastern Kosovo. Aid agencies, Nato and the KLA are all extremely worried about the condition of up to 700.000 Kosovo Albanians still trapped in the region. Many are believed to be being used as human shields against Nato airstrikes on Serb infantry and armoured columns.

But the KLA has claimed that up to half a million refugees, most of them men who feared being murdered by Serb death squads, are living behind KLA lines and now face food shortages.

There are many, many. who are starving to death. Our aim is to get in there and protect them. The Serbs are trying to stop us and that's why they are attacking inside Albania," said a KLA commander in Kukes yesterday.

Enervated by the Serb invasion, Pandeli Majko, the Albanian Prime Minister, held an emergency meeting with Luan Hajdaraga, his Defence Minister, and Aleks Andoni, the Albanian Army Chief of Staff, and pledged to co-ordinate a response closely with Nato which is setting up its headquarters in the Albanian Ministry of Defence.



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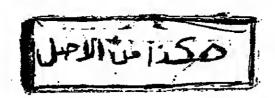
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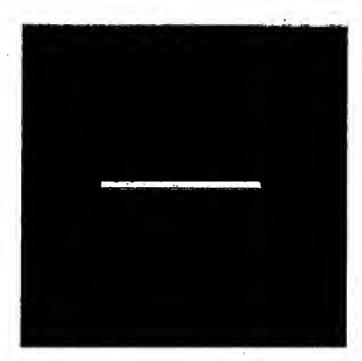
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from their homes but remain with-

In a Commons statement, the

Prime Minister said that Nato's

military action had a moral pur-

pose as much as a strategic inter-

est. The barbarity perpetrated on

civilians in Kosovo, simply on the ground of their ethnic identity.

could not be be allowed to succeed.

military commanders that they

could be tried for war crimes, Mr

Blair said that Mr Milosevic's forc-

es were continuing their "ethnic

cleansing" but at a reduced level.

'As a result of Nato action to date.

the pace has significantly diminished," he said. "His tanks have to

conceal themselves from Nato air-

craft. His fuel supplies are run-

ning low. Many have sought ref-

uge in the hills and forests of Kos-

ovo. We are looking at all the opi-

"Let me say this clearly: Milose-vic is responsible for the welfare of

those people. When we go into Kos-

ovo finally, he will be held responsi-

one else has committed crimes and the International War Crimes Tri-

bunal indicts them as war crimi-

nals, we will pursue them in the

same way we are still pursuing

those people from Bosnia. We are

Later, he added: "If he, or any-

ions to assist them.

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Milosevic will pay in full for atrocities'

PRESIDENT Milosevic and his Philip Webster reports on Tony Blair's generals were warned by Tony Blair yesterday that they will be held responsible for any harm that insistence to the Commons that the Nato offensive has a moral purpose comes to the half million Kosovan Albanians who have been driven

> picking them up. They are being in-dicted and they are being taken to The Hague and we will carry on

doing that," Mr Blair said that the extra 1,800 troops were being sent so Brit-ain "could be in a position to play our proper role in the effort to ensure the refugees are able to return to Kosovo in safety".

Mr Blair, reporting to a sombre House on military developments during the Easter recess, told MPs that the allied action would take time to succeed, but there could be no compromise in the battle to de-

feat "ethnic cleansing".

The Nato action appeared still to have backing on all sides of the House, although there were a few

Mr Blair said that every day the

We intervened when the diplomatic avenue was exhausted and when the hideous policy of 'ethnic cleansing' was under way."

He described the difficulties of

would be considerable." But he added: "There can be no compromise on the terms we have

greatest test of Nato's credibility

since the end of the Cold War".

The MPs urged Nato to maintiao

id and decisive action" oo behalf

of the United Nations. "This capa-bility must not be jeopardised."

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Alarm over Russian ties

PREVENTING the West's links with Russia from collapsing has emerged as the critical issue of MPs has said (Roland Watsoo

In a report published yesterday, the cross-party Defence Se-lect Committee said the bombardent of Serbia presented "the air attacks were causing further damage to "Milosevic's military

He told those who had called for more negotiations: "We struggled for a year to find a solution for Kosovo by peaceful means, despite Milosevic's brutality on the ground.

sending in any ground forces as "formidable". "In present circumstances, the potential loss of life among our servicemen and women, to say nothing of civilians,

set out. They must be met in full."

its dialogue with countries like Russia and Ukraine. They also stated that Nato is the only mili-tary organisation capable of "rap-

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William Hague said that the Opposition continued to back the Nato campaign. He said that Mr Blair had rightly described Mr Milosevic as a dictator and spoken of the need for war crimes investigations, adding: "How does he view the likelihood of us now being able to negotiate a political settlement with Milosevic?"

BALKANS WAR: ALLIED RESOLVE

Mr Blair said it was not a question of negotiating, "It is a question of him meeting the terms Nato has set out. And there will be no compromise on those terms. They will be secured in full."

Paddy Ashdown, the Liberal Democrat leader, said he had yet to see evidence that Milosevic had been forced to do something he did not intend to do. "We have not yet forced him to take action. These operations," he added,

still have a long way to go. There will be setbacks, including casualties, among them no doubt unintended civilian casualties." Martin Bell, the former BBC

war correspondent and Independent MP for Tatton, said: "It is clear that we are in the presence of the greatest war crimes in Europe for more than half a century. Yet we continue to respond with air power and air power alone."

He challenged Mr Blair: "Is it not true that circumstances on the ground can only be changed by

boots on the ground?"

Mr Blair replied: "I simply ask people who say that we should put in ground forces now to just reflect on what an undertaking that is."

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Madeleine Albright meets reporters after her Oslo talks yesterday

Moscow insists air war must end

BY CHARLES BREMNER

RUSSIA and the United States claimed progress yesterday in joint efforts to end the conflict in Kosovo, but Igor Ivanov, the Russian Foreign Minister, insisted that the Nato air campaign must stop and Belgrade's consent was needed before any foreign forces entered the Ser-

After four hours of talks in Oslo. Mr Ivanov and Madeleine Albright, the US Secretary of State, said they had "narrowed differences" in their approach to President Milosevic. The session produced no breakthrough in the allies' push to bring Russian pressure to bear on Mr Milosevic, but there was none of the acrimony of recent statements from President Yeltsin about the danger of a new world war.

The main sticking point was over a Nato force in Kosovo to protect the population. Mr Ivanov noted that Belgrade was refusing to consider the entry of any foreign troops without its assent. Moscow eventually could accept a UN presence in the province, he said, and, with an eye to the Serbians, he added: "We are against any form of violence, irrespective of who is committing it.

MPs dig in for long and bloody battle

agreed, but the means remain cloudy. Backing at Westminster for the Nato military action in Kosovo has increased since before Easter. Reports about Serb atrocities and the plight of the refugees have solidified support for the bombing campaign and for the Nato aim of securing the unconditional and safe return of all refugees" protected by a Nato-led inter-

national force.
But doubts remain about how these objectives can be achieved, echoing similar concerns heard in Washington as Congress returned from a twoweek recess.

ington, legislators talk of shock among constituents about the harrowing pictures from Kosovo. But this is linked to uncertainty. After Congresional leaders met President Clinton, The Los Angeles Times reported "there is still no consensus in either party on such key issues as how long the air campaign should last, when ground forces should be sent and how much money Congress is willing to spend".

The mood in the Commons was subdued as MPs heard the first report from Tony Blair on Kosovo for nearly a fortnight. There was a general acceptance both of the necessity of the action and its probable length. Its opponents were still there - Tony Benn. Tam Dalyell. Alice Mahon and, at his most contrary, Alan Clark. But they are clearly a minority. Even the hard-left Campaign Group is split, more so than during the Gulf War.

n the Tory side, Mr Clark apart, the pre-Easter critics were more muted and apparently more reluctant to rock the boat. William Hague was cautious, expressing general support and ask-ing a series of probing questions on the aims, the Kosovan Albanian refugees and the role of ground troops, as a Leader of the Opposition should.

MPs reflected the public mood, since repeated polls have shown rising support for

the air campaign.
If there is now more clarity
about overall aims, and greater agreement about them, few MPs appear sure about how we get from here to there. Even if "ethnic cleansing" has not been stopped, the air campaign is clearly now damag-ing Serbian military capacity.

LINKS

http://www.mato.lot/ — Neto site http://www.lwpr.net/ — The Institute for War & Peace Reporting, An independ ent body reporting on the Kosovo criss http://www.msbcr.ch/wews/media.kosovo.ktm — UNHCR website. Re kosovo.htm — UNHCR website. Reports and updates http://www.amuesty.org/atitb/

Interior/kosovo/ladx_lat.htm — Am nesty international website http://www.doctorswitboutborders org/missions/kosons.htm — Méd-ecirs sans Frontières website http://www.lorc.cb/ — International Committee of the Red Cross. Reports

The aims are clearer, but few seem sure of how we get there?

To portray the issue as being for or against ground troops is gross oversimplification. The choice is more subtle. A land force invasion is still ruled out, even though many

MPs regard that as inevitable — and the commitment of ground troops now has grow-ing support in polls in Britain, the United States, Germany and France.

Mr Blair was insistent that dertaking, in the face of organised Serb resistance, are formidable". Not only would the potential loss of life be "considerable" but "assembling such a force would take weeks".

ground troops only in a "permissive environment". But Mr Blair made clear that this does not mean reaching an agreement with Belgrade before troops can be deployed.

Nato has talked of using As Paddy Ashdown said, there is a crucial distinction between using ground troops when the risks are permissible, which would be reasonable, and when President Milosevic permits them, which would not be acceptable. Mr Blair stressed that Mr Milose-

vic has no veto. o with a further LS00 British troops being sent to Greece and US expanding its forces, the option is being created of an intervention on the ground to protect the return of the refugees. This would be when Serb military capabilities in Kosovo have been reduced even fur-

Mr Blair has freedom of manoeuvre and no deadline. There is now a sombre recognition that the conflict is likely to be lengthy as well as bloody and costly.



During the past week ICR have sent ten lorries and two aircraft full of relief supplies to Kosovo refugees in Albania, Macedonia and Bosnia. Over the coming days and weeks we will continue to send as much vital aid as we can.

As ICR steps up its operation we still desperately need your donations. You can now also donate items of clothing and food. We promise that all your assistance will be with the refugees in the shortest possible time. Please do what you can to help. You can make a difference.

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Drop in or log on to Blair's new NHS

Plans aim to help patients to help themselves, reports Ian Murray

TONY BLAIR has unveiled his vision of a revamped NHS. which will make dropping into doctors' surgeries as easy as going shopping. Medical advice for doctors and patients will be posted on the Internet and help will also be available from 24-hour telephone lines staffed by nurses and doctors, under the plans for the NHS appropried vesterday.

OSCOW NSISTS War USt end

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announced yesterday.

The Prime Minister said that the Government would provide an initial £30 million to set up 20 drop-in medical centres, mostly attached to hospital accident and emergency departments, which will be open from 7am to 10pm.

One-stop health centres, where doctors, dentists, pharmacists, opticians, chiropodists and physiotherapists will all be available, are also planned. The finance will be provided by the Government's £280 million capital modernisation fund

The Prime Minister's vision was given the most cautious of welcomes by the doctors and health authorities who will be asked to turn it into reality. "I am not in any way trying to play down this, but we must not think this is a panacea for the ills of the health service," said Simon Fradd, who chairs the Doctor Patient Partnership and sits on the British Medical Association's GPs' committee.

"We have the lowest number of doctors per head of population in Europe and that is the fundamental problem." Stephen Thornton, Chief Executive of the NHS Confedera-

tion, which represents all hos-

pitals and health authorities,

said: "The Prime Minister's vision requires nothing short of a complete transformation and this when we are already struggling to cope with the day-to-day pressures of caring for and treating an ever-growing number of people in primary care and hospitals.

ing number of people in primary care and hospitals.

"The Prime Minister is right when he says that in the last two years the Government has put the building blocks of the new NHS in place, but it will require sustained effort and investment over many years to come if we are really to modernise the NHS."

NHS Direct, the 24-hour helpline, which has been piloted in three areas, is to be extended nationwide over the next year. Internet access and NHS Direct information points in surgeries, libraries, post offices and supermarkets will be provided to help people to care for themselves, together with an NHS Healthcare Guide and healthcare training sessions.

Mr Blair said that such a diverse range of health resources was necessary given the 24-hour nature of modern life, "Many people have the perception that the health service is great when you get there, but getting into it can be hard," he

The Prime Minister said that traditional GP surgeries would continue but would work hand-in-hand with the new one-stop medical centres, "which will simply provide a new option for people who, because of their hours or location of their job, find it difficult to see a doctor".



Samantha Shaw flanked by her designs worn by, left, Isabella Norman at her wedding to the late Earl Mountbatten's grandson, Timothy Knatchbull, and, right, Caprice

Sophie's choice for a royal wedding dress



Rhys-Jones: dress likely to cost about £5,000 IN THE front room of a tiny groundfloor fint — a space less than ten feet wide and lined with clothing rails the wedding dress of Sophie Rhys-Jones is being made by a young designer who has built an elite circle of

clients by word of mouth.

Samantha Shaw is about to be catapulted on to the world stage after her appointment as maker of The Royal Dress was confirmed yesterday. "She said her prices are not going up. She must be joking," one of her clients said tast night.

Millions will await the moment

when Miss Rhys-Jones walks up the aisle to marry Prince Edward on Just 19. If the Duckers of York's wedding gown is anything to go by, replicas will appear within hours. It is a

Prince Edward's bride-to-be has opted for a tiny Chelsea salon, writes Susie Steiner

daunting responsibility for a 30-yearold designer who has been in the industry for only four years and whose fashion house consists of a workshop just hig enough for a two-seater sofa. When she first started designing

just hig enough for a two-seater sofa.

When she first started designing under her own label in 1995. Miss Shaw charged about £500 for a dress.

Over the years this has risen to £1,250, and about £2,500 for a suit.

Miss Rhys-Jones is expected to pay £5,000 for her welding dress.

E5,000 for her welding dress.

Mise Shaw's London salon, anonymously set within a Victorian terrace, occupies two flats on the ground and

basement floors, just a stone's throw from the boutiques of King's Road and within view of Chelsea Bridge.

wick, the 31-pendale and close friend Miss Sha dress of Carlotte American Carlotte C

While the designer pins and tucks in her workshop, she is helped by two seamstresses who sew downstairs. Two rails in her room hold her day and eveningwear collections, another her fabric swatches. Miss Shaw has gained a name for herself through attention to detail, with ex-

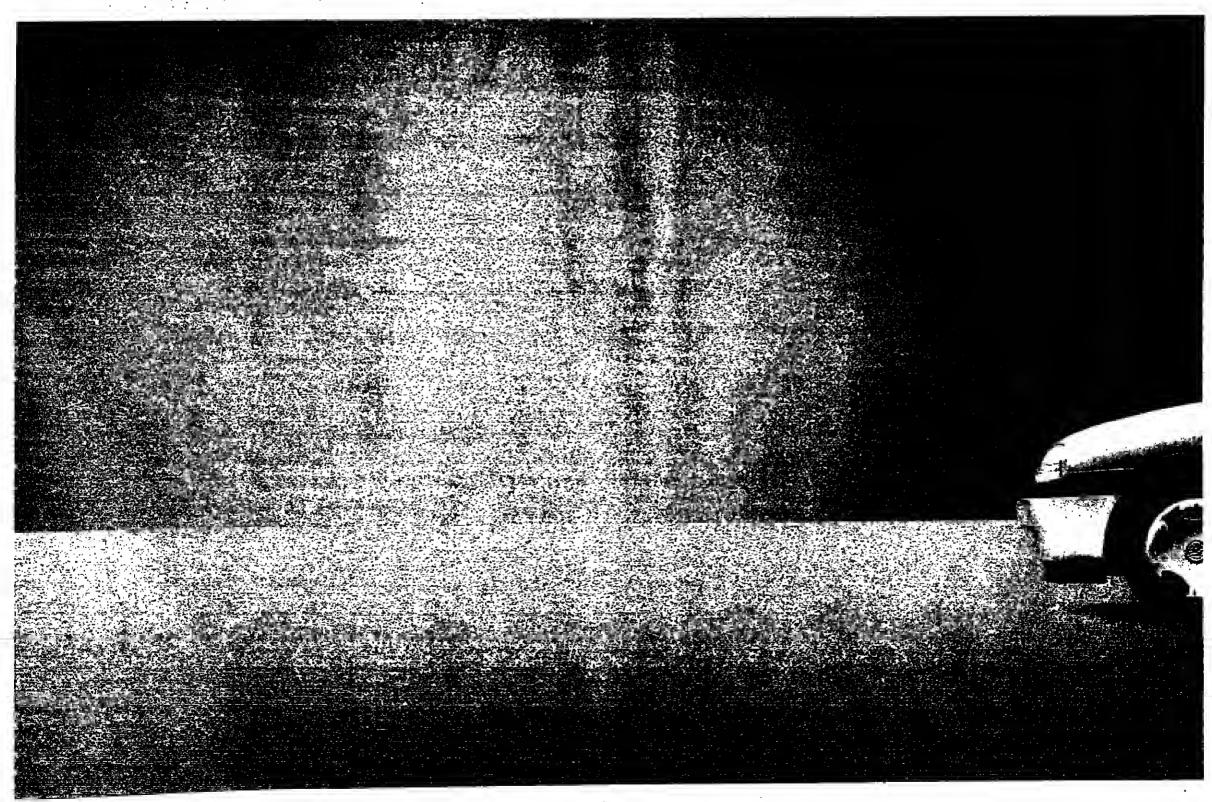
quisite leading and trimmings.

The is a sorthy spoken aristocal who has never needed to tout for business among the wealthy urbanites

who form her crowd. A scion of the McAlpine construction dynasty, she is next month to marry David Keswick, the 31-year-old son of Sir Chippendale and Lady Sarah Keswick, close friends of the Prince of Wales.

Miss Shaw designed the wedding dress of Catherine de Rham, who married Jonathan Dwek, the wealthy founder of the Planet Organie supermarket business in London, in a week-long society extravaganza in Hawaii last October.

Her most famous clients include Serena Linley, wife of the Queen's nephew, Viscount Linley. The supermodel Caprice has modelled her collections and the har designed for the actress Elizabeth Hurley and Ivana Trump's daughter Ivanka.



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MOTOR

NSUFANCE

The Woodhead 'conspiracy'

A trio of left-wing activists wants the Chief Inspector of Schools out, **Andrew Pierce** reports

THE former wife of Chris Woodhead yesterday emerged from the shadows of a leftwing campaign to destabilise him and challenged the Prime Minister to dismiss him as

Chief Inspector of Schools. Behind Mrs Woodhead's carefully timed media offensive is a trio of experienced political activists. One of them, Kate Illingworth, who is a retired teacher and cousin of the veteran left-wing journalist Paul Foot, admitted yesterday that she was motivated by a political desire to topple Mr Woodhead.

"I have got an agenda against Chris Woodhead. He has humiliated the teaching profession. This is a good enough stick to use. It is a convenient stick," Ms Illingworth told The Times.

Few supporters of the Chief Inspector of Schools believe it was a coincidence that Mrs Woodhead made her debut on the airwaves as the House of Lords prepared to debate making it a criminal

offence for a teach-⁶There's er to have a sexual relationship with a pupil. Until her intervention on the BBC Radio 4's The World Toagenda. night on Monday night and yester-This is a day's Today, Mrs Woodhead had restricted herself to good stick one newspaper article and two newsto use ? paper interviews.

teaching friends, Ofsted chief at the Bristol school where he was teaching when his alleged affair took place, had made most of the running. They appear to have been motivated by a mixture of personal animosity towards Mr Woodhead, dating back to the staffroom, a desire for "the truth" to come out, and political dogma.

left-wing

For 25 years Mrs Woodhead maintained a vow of silence about her husband's infidelity. Even when the News of the World revealed the first sketchy details of the affair three years ago she stayed silent for the sake of their daughter, according to an interview she gave in last month's Mail on Sunday.

She has now gone public at a time when her ex-husband - the scourge of the teaching unions because of his illdisguised contempt for the mediocre among the profession - is down and nearly out Mr Woodhead, who was appointed by the Conservatives and kept on by new Labour, is

fighting for survival.

Mrs Woodhead's foes portray her as a vengeful former wife desperate to destroy her former husband's career. Her supporters maintain she is a dignified woman whose patience has snapped after a quarter of a century of hurt.

The turning point for Mrs Woodhead was his widely re-ported remarks that it could be "educative and experiential" for teachers to conduct affairs with pupils. The comment reignited interest in his relationship with a former pupil, Amanda Johnston, The final straw was Mr Wood-

head's denial that relationship took place when she was still at school while he was allegedly telephoning his ex-wife and begging for her silence. Supporters of Mrs Woodhead insist she is neither

hellbent on revenge

nor seeking his re-

moval from office

over allegations he

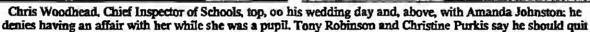
had lied about his

relationship with the sixthformer. But colleagues of the the former wife raised the political temperature by making herself a public figure. Telling the truth is one of the most important things we have,"

she said on Today. "If I find that Mr Blair knows that he [Mr Woodhead] is lying, and is prepared to accept that, then I am afraid anyone who allows lies to be carried on cannot be trusted themselves. It is an incredibly im-

portant issue," she said. Until Mrs Woodhead's appearance on the political stage her campaign had been conducted with the aid of smoke and mirrors and the assistance of leading members of Bristol West Labour Party. Ms





Illingworth, 62, a friend of hers for 25 years, has been particularly supportive.

Mr Woodhead was Ms Illingworth's head of English at Gordano School in 1974. She is one of five former teachers who have claimed that the affair with Ms Johnston had been an open secret there.

Ms Illingworth is a longtime Labour activist whose uncle is the former Labour leader Michael Foot and whose political heroes include Tony Benn; the former Cabinet minister represented a Bristol constituency before he was elected for Chesterfield. But Ms Illingworth has allowed her party membership

to lapse because she is disillusioned with the Blair adminis-

She said that as a head of department Mr Woodhead "was pushy, a whizzkid, with progressive ideas - not what I would call them today. Chris Woodhead has been arrogant, overbearing, critical, and had a terrible effect on the teaching

"He is lying over this affair but because of his high-handed manner he thinks he is above scrutiny. Paul and I discussed this in February. We both think it is astonishing he is still there."

The actor Tony Robinson, a friend of Mrs Woodhead, is knock on my front-door from

the second member of the triumvirate. He increased the pressure on the schools chief

when he issued a detailed statement contradicting his version of events. Best known as Bald-rick in Blackadder, the actor. a well-known Labour supporter, is a popular children's tele-vision presenter. He is a mem-ber of the Bristol West party.

The triumvirate is completed by Christine Purkis, who has not met Mrs Woodhead, but who gave the press details of Mr Woodhead frolicking in his underpants with sixthform girls, including Ms Johnston, on a field trip in 1975.

"I have been waiting for a

the press for 25 odd years." said the retired teacher.

"We are all friends from the Labour Party. Tony is a big player. We are not a Chardonnay-sipping left-wing cabai who sit round a dinner-table plotting. But when it hit the papers there were many of us who thought right, here we go. It was a terrible feeling when, having made the News of the World two years ago, it all fiz-zled out. He seemed to have got away with it. It's taken a long time. But now his posi-

tion is untenable." Mr Woodhead and Ms Johnson insist that their nine year relationship did not begin until both had left Gordano.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Girl's naked body found in alleyway

The naked body of a girl aged about 17 has been found at Guildford. Surrey. Detectives began a murder investigation after a man oo his way to work saw the body lying in an alley leading to lock-up garages opposite the Civic Hall. The only obvious signs of injury were grazes to the victim's face. Police scaled off the area as forensic scientists and officers with dogs searched for clues. As door-to-door inquiries began, police started to examine hours of security camera videotapes. The body was found a few hundred yards from the town centre's nightclubs and restaurants. Detectives appealed for anyone who was out on Monday night and may have seen anything

Dog-fight man jailed

John "Rustler" Parker, a leading figure behind organised dog fights in Britain, became the first person to be found guilty of involvement without being caught at the scene of a fight. Parker, 34, was jailed for four months and banned from keeping dogs for 10 years after being convicted of causing unnecessary sufferiog on the RSPCA's evidence of equipment and wounded dogs found at his home in Kexby, Lincolnshire.

Touchdown accident

A passenger was seriously injored and three were slightly hurt after the oose landing gear of an aeroplane collapsed after touchdown at Manchester airport, according to a report by the Air Accidents Investigation Branch. The 54 other passeogers were uninjured in the incident in March last year. Passengers on the British Aerospace ATP, arriving from Southampton, escaped via the over-

Rural cash machines

Cash dispensers linked to banks via satellite are to be installed in suburbs and rural districts. By the end of the year customers of all high street banks will be able to use more than 350 machines at Co-op stores, saving journeys and increasing trade for out-of-town shops. When a card is inserted, information is sent from a dish on the store roof via satellite to the customer's bank in a 100,000-mile round-trip that takes only seconds.

CS victim wins £7,000

A man has woo £7,000 in damages for being assaulted by police with a CS spray. Kevin Missen, 21, was sprayed in the face in Liverpool in December 1996 as he looked into a police van to see his brother, who had been arrested for urinating in public. A charge of being drunk and disorderly orderly against Mr Missen was dismissed by magistrates and be fater sued Merseyside Police.Mr Missen said: "My eyes were not right for two weeks."

Burglar's calling card

A burglar was arrested for a string of thefts after he dropped his prisoo discharge papers at the first hreak-in. Richard Brown, 25, had been released from the prison ship HMP Weare in Portland, Dorset, but was quickly picked up after police found the papers, which included his photograph, name, age, description and previous convictions. Brown was jailed again for 21 months by Dorchester Crown Court.

Who could step into his shoes?

ONE of the points in Chris Woodhead's favour in his fight for survival is the absence of a natural successor as Chief In-

In his four years at the helm of the Office for Standards in Education, Mr Woodhead has not brought in his "own" peoBy JOHN O'LEARY, EDUCATION EDITOR

ple in the way that would be natural in the private sector. This means that the Government might be forced to look farther afield for a successor. Lord Haskins; for example, who runs Northern Foods,

ENDSLEIGH

CALL

would bring a strong managerial pedigree. John McIntosh, head of the private sector Centre for British Teachers, would maintain a critical approach. He also has experience of running a large national organisation, Shelter.

Less prominent candidates from the business world might include Pat Lee, head of retail training at Tesco and a member of the Qualifications and Curriculum Authority.

Mike Tomlinson, Mr Wood-head's deputy and the head of inspections, would be the natural caretaker in the event of a surprise resignation. But the 56-year-old chemist would not be a charismanc leader in the Woodhead mould.

Mr Tomlinson came to public attention as the leader of the emergency inspection of The Ridings School, in Halifax. But he blotted his copybook as a spokesman for the agency when, in an unguard-ed moment, he said he "did

not give a monkey's toss" about teachers' views.

A more probable candidate would be Anthea Millett, who heads the Teacher Training Agency and was Mr Tomlin-But, like many of the other posbe seen as more sympathetic

Blood and tears regime earns admiration

IF CHRIS WOODHEAD had to relinquish his post, his legacy would be a wealth of information on schools that would be the envy of other countries. But he would remain best known for his battle against the education establishment.

Since his appointment to head the Office for Standards in Education, he has waged a relentless campaign against sloppy teaching and bureaucratic incompetence.

He has sailed close to the political wind but, under two Governments, has always been able to rely on support in Downing Street. Many observers believe, however, that his standing has been so damaged by the continuing allegations of his former wife and past teaching colleagues that he will be unable to remain in the joh for long.

After four years as Chief In-

Government as anxious as its predecessor to maintain pressure on teachers for improved results.



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last night to find new buyers for the Govan shipyard and other operations after the engineering giant Kvaerner announced a shake-up threatening 5.000 jobs.

The Norwegian firm put its Govan yard in Glasgow and engineering and construction operations in the North East and Sheffield up for sale. Lord Macdonald of Tradeston, the Scottish Business and Industry Minister, who used to work at Govan, hopes the task force can find a new buyer for the yard before orders run out in the summer.

Stephen Byers, the Trade and Industry Secretary, met John Fletcher, a Kvaerner director, last night to discuss what the Government could do to help with the sale of the English operations. These are key manufacturing facilities which we need to secure for the future so that jobs can be protected," he said.

The sell-off is part of a worldwide review by the company after a period of severe losses. It will shed 25,000 staff worldwide. The firm announced it is to pull out of shipbuilding operations, putting yards employ-ing nearly 2,000 people at Gov-

an and Clydebank up for sale. The task force, to be headed by Sir Gavin Laird, the former union leader, will seck an early meeting with the Ministry of Defence, which is expected to place a huge order for new roll-on, roll-off vessels later

Ministers set up task force to find

a buyer before orders run out

at Govan, writes Jason Allardyce this year. Unions urged the

MoD to bring forward the order to help Govan to attract a buyer. "Scotland needs engineering and manufacturing jobs. We simply cannot rely on call-centre, supermarket or burger bar jobs." Danny Carrigan, the Scottish regional secretary of the AEEU, said. The Scottish Nadonal Party.

which is now even more likely to win the Glasgow Govan seat in the Scottish parliament election on May 6, urged the Government to offer incentives to prospective buyers. A party spokesman said any package must be at least as attractive as the £150 million believed to have been made available to save the Rover plant in

If Govan does close later this year, it will be the latest victim in the dramatic decline of the British shipbuilding industry, which used to employ more than 200,000 workers in hundreds of yards in the 1920s but is now down to around 30,000 at less than 20 main

centres. Lord Macdonald said he believed the yard had "considerable poteotial". He added: "It is now a modern, pro-ducove shipyard capable of building ships to the highest technical specification."

Labour appealed to the Scottish nationalists not to turn the closure into an election issue. But the SNP insisted that Donald Dewar, the Scottish Secretary, must accept some blame. Nicola Sturgeon, the SNP Govan candidate who plans to meet shop stewards today, said: Tony Blair's failure to visit Kvaerner during his recent visit to Glasgow gave the unfortunate impression that the Government was not giving top priority to the yard's

Kvaerner is also reviewing its oil and gas operations in Aberdeen, London and Croydon, which employ a total of 1,600 people. Its fabrication yard at Methil, Fife, employing 315, is

also under review.

Kjell Almskog, president and chief executive officer of Kvaerner, said the company's decision was not a reflection on workers at Govan: "We are exiting Govan because we are leaving shipbuilding altogeth-

On the prospects of selling the UK shipyards, Mr Almskog admitted the outlook was not promising. "We have to say that given the orders situaoon it is not going to be easy."

Business, page 23



Workers at Kvaerner's Govan shippard going to meet management after they announced that it was to pull out of shipbuilding on the Clyde

1,500 workers in North East fear for future

BY PAUL WILKINSON NORTH EAST CORRESPONDENT

THOUSANDS of workers in the North of England were also contem-plating a bleak future after Kvaerner's announcement of plans to sell its British subsidiaries.

There are serious doubts over the long-term future of 900 workers at the Port Clarence offshore yard in Middlesbrough and 600 at Cleveland

Bridge in Darlington, which helped to build the Severn and Humber bridges. Both of these Kvaerner sites are

struggling to fill their order books. Its two Davy Roll steel fabrication plants in Gateshead on Tyneside and Sheffield in South Yorkshire, which employ almost 1.000 workers, have also been put on the market but managers there are confident they can be sold as a going coocern.

Kvaerner's other interests on Tees-

side, its Process and Metals division at Stockton and Redpath Engineering Services at Wilton, which together

have 1,500 staff, are not affected. At Port Clarence, which last year started building the Triton North Sea oil and gas platform, a spokesman said the plant needs new orders urgently". He said: "It is likely one of the yards will have to be downscaled. Work on the Triton platform is guaranteeing jobs until the summer, but beyond that the future is uncertain. Frank Cook, Labour MP for Stockton North, is angry that Kvaerner is voicing no concern for the Port Clarence workers. He said: "Its explanation so far is couched io banker's speak, and nothing about how it will hit individuals." One 25-year-old worker at the yard said: "Everyone is worried about the future. We've all got mortgages and families and we just don't know

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SNP to concede £2bn hole in budget

By JASON ALLARDYCE SCOTTISH POLITICAL REPORTER

THE Scottish nationalists are to admit for the first time that an independent Scotland would have to live with a £2 bil-

lion hole in its budget.
The admission, to be made in an economic strategy paper to be published before the Scottish election on May 6, wil reignite the debate over whether Scotland could afford to stand alone without being sub-

sidised by English taxpayers.
The SNP is expected to claim that the shortfall between what is raised and what is spent in Scotland will be just under £2 billion in 2000-01 be-

fore moving into surplus.

Labour has used government figures to claim that an independent Scotland would run up a cumulative deficit of more than £15 billion over the next four years. But the SNP will argue that in relative terms, the Scottish deficit is smaller than the overall deficit for the United Kingdom. The total UK deficit stood at £32 billion according to the latest government figures for 1996-97 and the SNP will point out that Westminster has not needed to increase taxation sharply to tackle this.

The Scottish deficit was officially put at E7 billion in 1996-97, with total government expenditure of E31.8 billion as against E24.7 billion raised in revenue in Scotland. When North Sea oil and privatisation proceeds were taken into account, the figure was closer to £3 billion. Public spending was 23 per cent higher per head in Scotland than in England in 1996-97.

The SNP treasury team of John Swinney and Andrew Wilson will claim that the methodology used for official deficit figures was biased. They will say that as the UK moves towards surplus, so the Scottish deficit will shrink to around £1 billion in 2001-02 before Scotland moves into a modest surplus the year after. The SNP also will argue

that, under its calculation of Scotland's deficit, the country would still meet the qualification criteria for European Monetary Union.

The paper, enotited An Economic Strategy for Independence, will also point out that Professor Andrew Hughes Hallett, an adviser to the World Bank and a leading authority on the single currency. has agreed that an independent Scotland could join economic and moentary union. SNP sources say they have deliberately used worst-case scenarios to calculate the figures.

Roger Scruton, page 18

NHS lists 'longer under Labour'

AVERAGE NHS waiting lists in Scotland under Labour are 5 per cent higher than during the Tories' final. five years, a study claimed yesterday. Independent research by the City account-ants Chantrey Vellacott DFK shows the average

waiting list in the Conservatives final five years was 81,568 whilst the average in La-

bour's first two years is 85,486. 100,000 or ...

The research also claims 25 per cent increase, between March 31, 1997 and September 30, 1998, in the number of people who did not receive an initial hospital appointment within the Scottish Office target of nine weeks from the date of GP referral. Only after the initial consultation prescribes further treatment — in around 50 per cent of cases — do patients join the "headline" waiting list.

Salmond under fire

A teenager questioned Alex Salmond, the SNP leader, on his controversial condemnation of Nato's air attacks on Serbia during an election walkabout. Kenneth Millan, 17, said he thought Mr Salmond had been "insensitive". The party leader spent several intitutes explaining his views in Livingston. West Lothian: Afterwards Mr Millan said: "I think be had a valid point but it might have been a sore time to put it. The whole country thought he was a bit insenstrive." Mr Millan said he backed attacks on military targets but was worried about civilian casualties.

Drugs head to head

A drugs counsellor and former Scottish Woman of the Year is to stand against Sam Galbraith, the Health Minister, to highlight a drugs crisis. Maxie Richards, 62 manted woman of the year in 1994 by a Glasgownewspaper for her work with addicts, said Mr Galbraith had ignored advice on the problem, including warnings of a heroin epidenno. The former teacher, from Bearsden Glasgow, will compete with Mr Galbraith for Strathkelvin and Bearsden seat. She said: "Children are dying on Scotland's Streets and the Government seems to be allowing it to harmer." and the Government seems to be allowing it to happen."

Councillor bites back

An enthusiastic Scottish nationalist is back on the earn An enthusiastic Scottish nationalist is back on the campaign trail after suffering a bad case of a dog biting the hand that pleads. Margaret Murray'a Cumbernaud councillor, had the top of her finger bitten off by a dog two days ago as she popped a campaign leaflet seeking support for local SNP candidate Andrew Wilson through a door. After receiving treatment in the accident and emergency ward at Monklands Hospital, the stoical politician who has been dubbed "The Terminator" was working as hard as ever yes-

QUOTE of the day

Donald Dewar, the Scottish Secretary, claiming an SNP government would. like Quebec, hold referendum after referendum on independence if elected in May:

It would mean a Scottish

neverendum ?

AGENDA Today: Labour's Henry McLeish will visit St Stephen's School in

Mabuse clai

Glaspow which runs an anti-drugs initiative. The Liberal Democrats will unveil their party election broadcast in Edinburgh, while the Conservatives will look at the economy. Nicola Sturgeon of the SNP will be talking about education. Alex Salmond will be campaigning in Stomoway

Inside Section 2 Passing the

buck on pollution

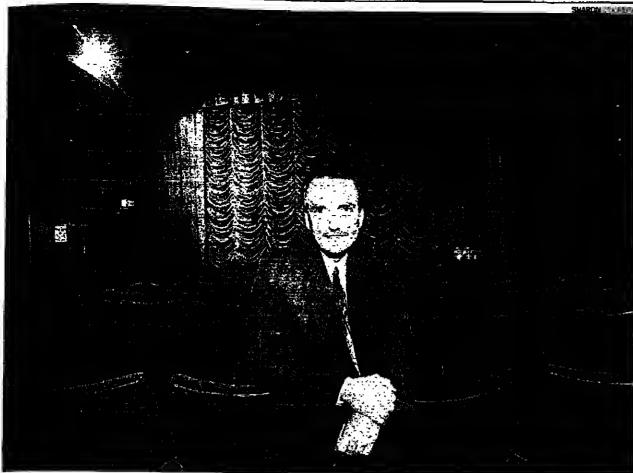
Buy Clark Gable's old home

Homes, page 32





APRIL 14 1999



Steve Tales, manager and projectionist at the Metro in Penistone, can no longer interrupt the main feature

Film chiefs call time on drinks interval

YOU CAN sink a pint in the middle of a Shakespeare play but not, it seems, in the middle of Shakespeare in Love. While the Bard was happy to provide an interval for theatregoers to seek refreshments, the film industry believes that we must persevere for hours without an intermission.

So when it was discovered that the operators of a small independent cinema were pausing the projector for a halftime half at the bar, the Society of Fiilm Distributors threatened to ban all further screenings unless the drinks break

Regulars at the 350-seat Metro in Penistone, near Barnsley. are outraged by the threat to their tipple, which they say dates back to the good old days of cinema, when there was always an interval between the B-movie and the big

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Cinema is ordered to stop breaks that give customers a breather at the bar, reports Paul Wilkinson

picture. The cinema is run on a lease from Barnsley Council by a management committee from the town council. Maureen Harrison, the Mayor of Penistone, who runs the committee, said: 'The people of the town are really angry about this. We will take it all the way to Europe if need be."

The town council is writing to the Society of Film Distributors in London asking it to relent. The society warned the Metro that the unauthorised intervals had to stop after it sent an undercover agent on a visit. At a screening of Godzilla the spy saw drinks served during a 22-minute break.

This week the cinema has

been running Shakespeare in Love - without an interval. Mrs Harrison said: "Since we have been forced to show films all the way through audience numbers have declined. The public are complaining.

"At home they can watch a film on video and have as many breaks as they want. watching half one evening and the remainder the next if they wish. What's the difference with our cinema? The television stations have breaks to show adverts during programmes, so why can't we have a break?

"It's like an old-fashioned

theatre, warm and cosy, and the staff know all the customers. The ushers will even keep an eye on children for their parents and watch over them until they are collected. All this is under threat unless we can have the interval restored. The profits we make from drinks. ice-cream and popcorn help to subsidise the building.

'This is a small cinema struggling to keep open, and the money we make keeps the building watertight. This could close us down. The public are complaining with their feet. We serve isolated rural communities and there is no other entertainment for them apart from pubs.

There is no public transport to multiplex cinemas in nearby cities and the film distributors could be denying this part of the world the opportunity to see films."

David Hunt, chief executive of the Society of Film Distribvutors, said: "When our members acquire the rights of a film they take on a contractual requirement to show the film in its entirety. Cinemas sign a. licence agreement with our members to show the film without an interval. If we catch anyone breaking the terms of this agreement we

ask them to stop. "It is all about the cinema experience. These are feature films which are meant to be seen straight through without arbitrary breaks. It is about 200 or 300 people watching a film together. It is totally differ-

ent to watching television.
"We have asked the Penistone cinema to observe the terms of its licence that it cannot have an interval during the feature film.

"Even in the old days they had a B-film first followed by the main feature. They didn't stop the feature film halfway

A BREAK WITH CINEMA TRADITION

THE battle between art and ice-creams has raged in the cinema since the dooble projector was pioneered 87 years agoate.

That breakthrough meant that the interval could have been consigned to the cinematic dustbin. Unlike the B-movie and newsreel, however, break has survived.

Although directors and distributors are almost united in their dislike of the interval - the former for dramatie reasons, the latter for financial - the screening of epic films lasting up to three hours demands a break.

The most recent to be sbown with an approved interval was Dunces With Wolves, released in 1990 and starring Kevin Costner, which ran for 180 minutes. Others included The Godfather (175 minutes), and The Guns of Navarone (157 minutes), in which the director created a moment of high tension just before the halfway cut.

Schindler's List (195 minotes) was shown without an interval. "How can you interrupt such a powerful film just to sell

Police pay singer

£30,000 to settle

race abuse claim



Good old days: queues and intervals

ice-creams?" said Sir Sydney Samuelson. 73, the first British film commissioner. who yesterday coodemned the Yorkshire cinema for attempting to insert its own break. "I think it is appalling to interrupt the story where the director did not intend it. I feel very strongly that cinemas have a responsibility to show the film as it was intended."

Most films run for about two hours allowing cinemas to squeeze in up to four performances a day.

Woman driver 'ten times over

By Russell Jenkins, north west correspondent By Paul WILKINSON

yesterday agreed to pay £30,000 to a black musician who says that he was twice beaten up by officers, and told: You are going to die, you black bastard."

Mark Ellison, 28, a hip-hop and reggae singer, of Moss Side, Manchester, compared the officers to a lynch mob in the American Deep South

The force agreed to pay £5,170 compensation and £25,000 costs before Mr Ellison's case for assault, false imprisonment and malicious prosecution was heard at Manchester County Court.

Mr Ellison was angry that the police refused to offer an apology with the damages. "I did not bring this case for the money but to make a stand against this type of police misbehaviour," he said. "Some police just think that because you are black and from the inner city, you must be bad."

He complained that in October 1992 he was ambushed by police officers and bundled into a van where he was kicked in the groin and banered over the head. When he asked what was going on, he said, one of-

ficer told him: "You are going to die, you black bastard." Mr Ellison said: "It was like something out of a film about the Deep South. One policeman then took me by the

GREATER Manchester Police throat and put his other hand over my face. I was gasping for air. Another officer was saying.
'Don't let the coon breathe."

Mr Ellison made a formal complaint. Six months later, he said, the same officers went to his home and taunted him with the words "nigger, come out, nigger". He said that one hit him on the shoulder with his radio and he lashed back. He was taken to a police sta-oon in a van, where he claimed that officers kneed him in the groin and kicked his stomach. He was later acquitted of assault.

The force said yesterday that the Police Complaints Authority had not upheld Mr Ellison's allegations after an internal investigation in 1993.



Ellison: said police were like a lynch mob

alcohol limit'

NORTH EAST CORRESPONDENT

A MOTORIST was almost ten times over the drink-drive limit when breath-tested by police. The reading was so high, a court was told yesterday, that the officers thought their equipment was defective. Michelle Fothergill's read-

ing is believed to be the highest recorded in the country. but it may not have been accurate because the 24-year-old woman had also been sniffing butane.

After she had been warned by magistrates that she may go to jail, her solicitor, Roger Clapham, said outside court "In theory, with a reading like this, she should be dead."

Fothergill, of Morley, West Yorkshire, was charged with drinking and driving in November, but at Morley Magistrates' Court in Leeds yesterday, the charge was dropped because the butane meant that a correct reading could not be taken from her blood sample. Fothergill admitted driving while unfit because of

The court was told that she was seen by police driving erratically in Tingley. West Yorkshire, and after a roadside breath test she was arrested and taken to a police station, where she was tested again. This produced a read-



Fothergill: butane sniffing may have affected test

iog of 333 micrograms of alcohol per 100 millilitres of breath. The limit is 35 micro-

Sarah Pilcher, for the pros-ecution, said: The officers were worried that the reading was incorrect but they found that the machine was working properly." A blood sample was taken but Fothergill became aggressive and smashed one of the glass phials against a wall. Another sample had to be taken.

. Mr Clapham, for Fothergill, said that she had been under pressure because ber grandmother had died, ber partner had left her and fertility treatment bad failed. He said her GP had advised her to attend an addiction clinic. The case was adjourned until May for reports.



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SOUTHUMPTON

A DECISION by Italian offi-

cials to open a ventilation

shaft when a fire broke out last

month in the Mont Blanc tun-

nel linking France and Italy

may have fanned the inferno

in which at least 41 people

died, a preliminary report said

However, the report by

French experts on the disaster.

the worst ever road-turnel

blaze, said the decision to set

the ventilator on maximum.

blowing air on to the flames.

was not the only explanation

There has been widespread

outrage and speculation as to

how a fire that broke out on a Belgian-registered lorry carry-

ing margarine and flour

through the seven-mile tunnel

could have caused an inferno

that engulfed 35 vehicles and

introduced into the zone where

the fire was developing, in-

stead of extracting the smoke.

is undoubtedly an important

element that needs to be taken

into account in analysing the

swift flare-up of the blaze," the

Only two safety drills had

been carried out in the tunnel

since it was opened in 1965, the

report said.

The fact that fresh air was

claimed so many lives.

for the tragedy.

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Italian blunder fanned Mont Blanc inferno

FROM SUSAN BELL IN PARIS

last one ten years ago, the report disclosed.

It blamed the Mont Bland Motorway and Tunnel (ATMB) company for its unwillingness to interrupt traffic to carry out safety exercises.

Insufficient co-ordination between ATMB and its Italian sister company SITMB and the lack of a parallel emergency passageway which could have offered motorists an escape route, were also blamed in the report, which was prepared by Pierre Dusse, the tunnel's inspector-general and Michel Marec, France's chief road network engineer.

The blaze raged for three days before firefighters succeeded in extinguishing it.

According to the report, ATMB switched the smoke extractors on as soon as the fire was reported, at 10.56 am on March 24. However, "for reasons which are not known". SITMB allowed the venoladon shaft to continue blowing fresh air into the tunnel, turning the system to maximum for almost 20 minutes, the re-

port said. It was not unoil 11.15 am that the Italians tried to disperse the smoke using an automacc extractor which failed to work.

An attempt to use a manual machine also failed.

Other serious oversights listed in the report include the fact that there was no first aid team on the Italian side, and insufficient breathing equip-

ment for rescue workers. The report, which was pub-lished by Jean-Claude Gayssot, the Transport Minister and Jean-Pierre Chevenement, the Interior Minister, said "at least 41" people had died, but noted that this was not a final figure. According to the prefecture of Haute-Savoie, 45 peo-

ple are reported missing. Most of those who died were suffocated inside their vehicles by carbon monoxide and other toxic fumes only minutes after the fire broke out, the report said. Faulty breathing appara-tus was probably to blame for the death of a fireman and for the serious injuries suffered by

another, it concluded. The charred remains of 34 bodies were discovered inside their vehicles. Only seven people had tried to escape on foot before they too succumbed to the heat and the fumes.

M Gayssot said he expected would be "many long months" before the tunnel was



Members of the Russian security forces perform a routine during the finals of the Miss Red Star beauty contest in Moscow yesterday (Anna Blundy writes). The

Russia's femmes fatale

penko, 24, a paratroop war-rant officer, pictured third from right. All the contest-ants were members of the

as nurses, radio and telephone operators or secretares. There are around 1.000 female officers but only four colonels. No woman has ever attained the rank of

Prodi manifesto wins EU plaudits

Incoming President woos Parliament with federalist

ROMANO PRODI, the anointed successor to Jacques Santer as President of the European Commission, pledged yesterday to work for a more integrated Union with closer tax policies and eventually the "true harmonisation of national economic systems".

Signor Prodi proclaimed his vision of a closer European Union at his first appearance before the European Parliament which forced Mr Santer and his Commission to resign last

month over charges of mismanagement and fraud. The former Italian Prime Minister, who was nominated

unanimously by EU leaders

TANGSTUSHVERTEADIER OFFERS

vision and Blairite reforms, Charles Bremner writes last month, pleased the Strasbourg assembly by saying that he had abandoned a plan to stand for a seat in the June elections. MEPs had been angered by the ploy, aimed at giving

Italian political party.
Signor Prodi, who enjoys
the backing of Tony Blair,
promised radical reform to make the Commission "more efficient, absolutely transparent and fully accountable". Before he takes up his post, prob-

Impetus to his newly launched

ably in September, the Parliament must approve his appointment, as well as that of his commissioners. EU leaders hold their first session in

Brussels tonight. The centrist politician earned moderate applause with his manifesto for a Europe that mixed the broad federalist aspirations of Italian leaders with Blair-style views : on the need for more economic deregulation and flexible labour markets. The EU must

wards protectionism", he said. 'The single market was the theme of the Eighties. The single currency was the theme of the Nineties. We must now face the difficult task of moving towards a single economy. a single political unity."

After the EU's "abandonment of monetary sovereignty" with the launch of the single currency this year, the coordination of tax policies among member states was urgently needed, he said. In the

tycoon's

wife were

'a fetish'

By Damian Whitworth IN WASHINGTON MARIA MAPLES, the estranged wife of the property tycoon Donald Trump, has spent an hour in court identify-

ing 70 shoes alleged to have fallen victim to the sexual advances of her former publicist. Chuck Jones, who has previously admitted being a shoe fetishist, is accused of stealing the actress's sandals, trainers, slippers, pumps and cowboy boots along with her pyjamas and tights.

The New York court was told that when Ms Maples first started to nooce that her sboes were disappearing, she became afraid to go home. When a hidden camera was installed in her flat, it recorded Mr Jones letting himself in and then kneeling in front of her cupboards. Ms Maples, 35, went with her mother and

Mr Trump's security officers to Mr Jones's office and made

him open a cabinet. It was full

"Piles of my shoes and

boots came pouring out," Ms

burt. They just came flooding

out. They were slashed. That

struck me as very aggressive

and angry." .
Mr Jones, 56, who was Ms

Maples's press agent before

she married Mr Trump in

1993, is defending himself on

charges of burglary and crimi-nal possession of stolen

goods. He claims that Ms

Manles sometimes used to

sleep at his office to avoid the nress and had left the shoes

of shoes.

longer term, the EU must "create true harmonisation of the national economic systems". It was also vital, he said, for

Europe to open itself more to the world in trade, foreign policy and through the development of its own defence capability. "We must put at stake all our credibility, just as European businesses do. This must be a turning point in the process of integration. We must not tolerate any delay in the realisation of our project."In must drive Europe into a great age of reform and change. We must renovate and reform our policies on the outside, in the

world and internally."
Edward McMillan-Scott, leader of the British Conservative group, described Signor Prodi's manifesto as vague. "Every indication is that Mr Prodi is business as usual, but if he shows a real determination to reform the Commission

he will confound his criocs." British Labour MEPs

played down Signor Prodi's federalist themes, noting his emphasis on the type of reforms long urged by Britain. Among these, Signor Prodi said that economic growth alone would not be enough to absorb crippling unemployment and preserve the welfare state for the next century. What was needed was less bu-

reaucracy and freer markets. Paying tribute to Signor Prodi, Pauline Green, the Briosh MEP who leads the dominant socialist bloc, called him "a good European" with "a proven track record of personal integrity" and achievement in leadership of a reforming gov-

The first test of Signor Prodi's reformist credentials will be how much he can influence the choice of 19 commissioners. who are to be chosen by the 15 member states. The Amsterdam treaty, which comes into force next month, gives the incoming President authority in nominating candidates, and Signor Prodi has said he would no longer accept the practice of dominant parties rewarding political has-beens with jobs in

WORLD SUMMARY

Anwar jail term expected

Many Malaysians believe a jail term for the former Deputy Prime Minister, Anwar Ibrahim, is inevitable when the High Court in Kuala Lumpur rules today (David Watts writes).

Whatever verdict Judge Augustine Paul - who sits without a jury - gives, it will mark a turning point in the country's history. Mr Anwar's dismissal last September for alleged abuse of power and immorality has split society, pitting the majority of Malays against their own in a country where ethnicity is at the centre of politics.

Britain restores ties with Iran

Nicosia: Britain and Iran are to normalise diplomatic des for the first time since the 1979 Islamic revolution (Michael Theodoulou writes). The decision seals an agreement reached last year when the Iranian Government dissociated itself from the fatwa on Salman Rushdie.

Deserters' case to be reviewed

Wellington: New Zealand is to hold an independent inquiry to decide whether five soldiers shot for mutiny and desertion during the First World War were shellshocked at the time (Cathie Bell writes). The decision comes after a campaign by Mark Peck. a La-bour MP.

Delhi coalition

nears collapse Delhi: The Indian Governmeot was pushed to the brink of collapse as Jayar-am Jayalalitha. leader of the All-India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam. the second-largest bloc in the ruling coalition. prepared to forge an alliance with the opposition Congress party. (Reuters)

Smuggung case opened

Tokyo: A man has been arrested for allegedly smuggling more than 40 Thai women in suitcases on flights to Japan. The Thais reportedly paid Toshiro Oyama's organisation more than £17,000 then boarded flights as passengers and were crammed into suitcases in the toilet. (AP)

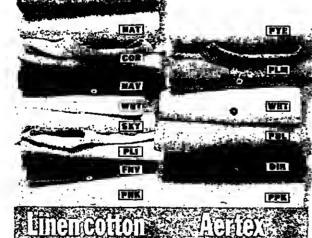
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his week The Times has teamed up with Boden to give you 50 per cent off one of Boden's popular Aertex" or linen cotton shirts. Our exclusive offer gives you a saving of £91 off the normal price of £49. You can also buy additional shirts at £31.50 each, a saving of £10.50. Simply collect four differently numbered tokens and attach them to the order form below. You can also order your shirts on the Internet by visiting www.boden.co.uk/times

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Romano Prodi addressing the assembly yesterday



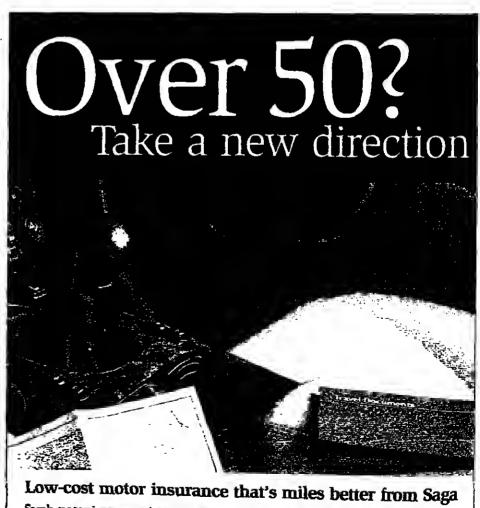
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Saving

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PARENTS who squandered

their pocket money at the sweet shop will be ashamed to

learn that their children prefer to hang around the building

society comparing rates of in-terest. The Walls Pocket Mon-

ey survey this week shows that

our 12 million children are sav-

ing more of their average pay-

out of £2.40 a week. More than

£28 million is paid out in pock-

The youth market is big business at banks and build-

ing societies. They offer more

than 60 different savings ac-

counts for children. Some

accounts provide special incen-

tives. Many pay rates more

generous than those on accounts for adults, but some

institutions offer low returns.

The young saver is favouring the building society sector

where rates are, on average,

higher. According to Money-

facts, the savings and loan information guide, the York-

shire Building Society is one of

the best buys, paying 6.5 per cent. The Coventry Building Society also offers a good rate

at 6.3 per cent. Two other socie-ties, the Bradford & Bingley and the Britannia, offer 6.25

All banks and building socie-

ties automatically deduct 20 per cent tax from interest.

Since children are not tax-

payers, they can claim this tax

back by completing an Inland

 Contacts: Yorkshire BS: 0845-600 6061; Coventry BS: 0845-766 5522; Bradford & Bingley BS: 01274-555 332;

Britannia BS: 0800 132304; Chesham BS: 01494 782575.

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خانان درد. : ۱۳۵۰ الانتساسات

Personal Finance Editor Anne Ashworth reports on the savings to be made by remortgaging; why it could pay to copy your children's

financial habits; the best way to provide for a comfortable and wrinkle-free retirement

pril has filled my neighbourhood with keen young couples in Gap combat pants searching for the perfect early Victorian terrace.

They have a clipboard, a dossier of alphabetically filed estate agents' details and can quote in seconds how the average price rises in the area compare with national figures. Although not yet parents, they are experts on GCSE and Alevel scores at nearby schools. having surfed the upmystreet. com website of the essential details for every postcode. They sigh at the sight of a flounced net curtain, but swoon at any hint of a Conran Shop carrier left out with the

The sight of this quest reminds others of the hell of moving home. However, they will play their part in the spring property rite by remorigaging. The savings can be equal to a large pay rise. Cut the rate on an £80,000 mortgage by 2 per cent and you could be about £1,600 a year better off. This is equivalent to a salary increase of £2,078 if you are a basic-rate taxpayer, or £2,666 if you are a

higher-rate payer. The remortgage transaction can be arranged on the telephonefrom yourarmchair. The money saved will enable you to swap the chair for one sofa from the Conran Shop, or as many as eight from the Cargo Home Shop chain. You are a suitable candidate for remorigaging if you are one of

lions who pay standard variable mortthough the Halifax and some others have this rates by 0.1 per cent to an aver-

age of 6.85 per cent, this is higher than the fixed or other discounted offers available which average 5.50 per cent. Those who pay the standard variable rate are subsidising the preferential rates enjoyed by other more cost-conscious borrowers. Are you happy to be helping to pay

Remortgaging is also an option for those who, several years ago, took out fixed-rate loans that seemed a bargain but are now expensive. Patrick Bunton of London & Country. the mortgage brokers, cites the example of those who, in 1994.

beauty industry to buy

volumes of skincare products is intense. Women

are subjected to a constant bar-

rage of advertisements featur-

ing fresh teenage faces selling

anti-wrinkle creams, tempted

by special offers offering bags of freebies, and hounded by

commission-earning cosmet-ics saleswomen claiming that

unless you spend hundreds of

pounds on creams to combat

free radicals, you may as well

As sexual equality advanc-

es, men are being sold the

beauty myth too. Mintel, the

market researcher, says that

spending on male-specific skin-

care products doubled be-

tween 1992 and 1996. It is no

longer deemed effeminate for

men to care about their looks.

When a footballer can prance

about on national television de-

claring that he buys L'Oréal

shampoo "because he's worth

it", the man in the street can

safely assume that he can buy

the occasional tube of moistur-

But keeping up appearances

is hard on the wallet. British

women spend about £500 mil-

lion a year on moisturisers.

Add cleanser, toner, night

cream and cellulite creams

and you are talking Guatema-

As cosmetics junkies will

know, there is a huge range of

lan national debt.

iser without fear of ridicule.

never leave the house again.

opted for loans fixed at 8 per cent for ten years. He suggests that if you have about three years left to run of a 7.5 per cent-plus fixed-rate deal, you should benefit from remortgaging, though you may have

to pay redemption penalties.
These are the charges imposed by mortgage lenders on unruly borrowers who have the temerity to decamp either during the fixed or discounted period of the loan. These fines are either a percentage of the loan or up to six months' interest repayments.

However, Bardays and Nat-West have a more punitive charging policy under which the redemption charge increases as the overall level of interest rates falls. One Times reader with a £120,000 NatWest loan recently found that he would have to pay £20,000 to take his leave from the bank.

■ The remortgage loans on the market are either of the fixed or discounted variety. Those who like certainty will prefer a fixed rate, finding it reassuring to know how much they are paying out each month for a period of two to five years.

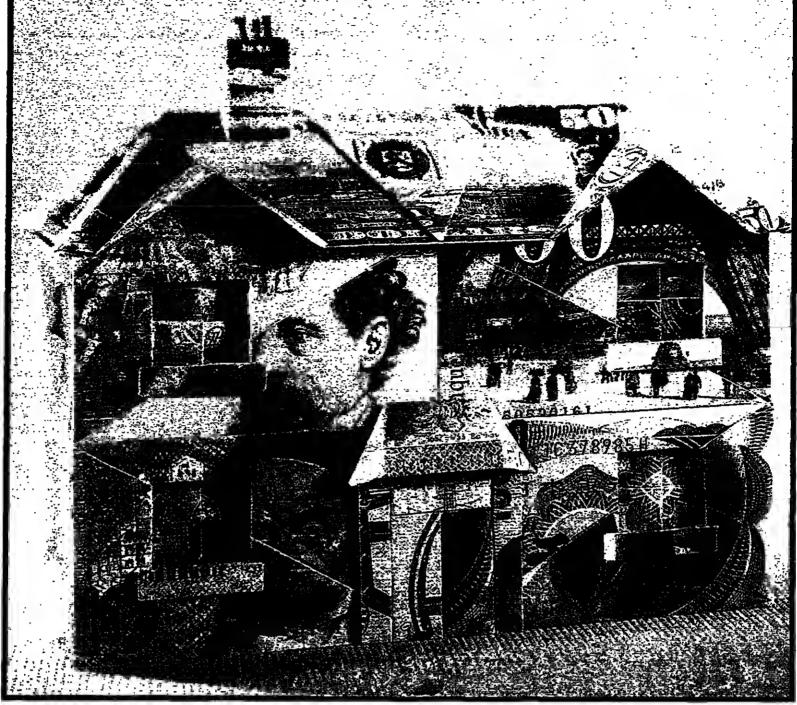
Those who like to live a little more dangerously will explore discounted variable rate offers. Here a discount of at least I per cent off the lender's standard variable rate is given. The rate payable on the loan will move in line with interest rates. Some discounted variable rates are "capped", limit-

ing the amount by which the loan rate can be increased base rates move

ent detail of the loan package. You may have to pay an ar-

rangement fee to the lender of £200 to £300. You must also have your property valued, at the cost of another £200 or so. There are also legal fees of £250 to £300 for the transfer of the deeds. However, leaders being anxious for your business, will often waive the ar-rangement fee and cover all the other costs.

You should look for a deal that is "transparent", avoiding lenders who seek to lock you in after the end of the fixed-rate period with harsh redemption penalties. Once you have enjoyed your discount, you will



Why pay? Homeowners who pay the standard variable mortgage rate are subsidising the rates enjoyed by other more cost-conscious borrowers

wish to be free to move your

For details of remortgage offers, consult www.times-money.co.uk - The Times's personfinance website. Using the site's special mortgage calculator, you can work out how much you can afford to pay to keep the roof over your head. taking into account your other outgoings.
The Halifax is offering some

good deals, including a loan of 5.65 per cent fixed until April 2002, with no fee and your le-

John Charcol, the mortgage broker, lists as its other best buys without arrangement fees a Legal & General Bank discounted deal of 4.50 per cent, with a free valuation and £200 cashback. After six months, the rate reverts to Legal & General's lower than average standard variable rate of 6.05 per cent. Standard Life Bank is offering a six-month discount of 1.5 per cent off its variable rate of 6.05 per

cent. The valuation fee is refunded and the legal fees paid.

Having reviewed the market, your next stop should be a call to your existing lender to inform them that you deserve better treatment. If you choose to remortgage

with your lender, you will not have to pay legal or valuation fees. But some banks and building societies will attempt to fob you off with less advantageous deals, preferring to re-serve the lowest rates for new customers. Other lenders will more con to match any loan from a rival, Ian Darby, of John Charcol, points out that some banks and building societies now have "retention teams". charged with the task of rekin-

dling borrower loyalty.

TIMES=MONEY www.times-money.co.uk

door will often be rewarded. You wish to swap to another So if you are normally submisfixed-rate deal where the rate sive in the company of those will be fixed at 5.35 per cent for

per cent where the repayments are £533.33 a month. To escape

you must pay a penalty of £3,200 (six months' interest).

who are lending you money, give a show of some Vinnie Jones assertiveness ■ A little simple arithmetic is now required. Suppose you have an £80,000 loan fixed at 8

Lenders deny that they will make irresistibly cheap eleventh-hour deals to prevent you from taking your business elsewhere. But awkward and demanding borrowers who ap-pear willing to walk out the

all nine of Terence Conran's

London restaurants. On a monthly basis, your

saving would almost cover a

Bupacare health insurance

plan (£37.28), or take care of a

modest slice of the interest on

if you add your skincare money to a regular investment in a unit trust, you can boost your returns significantly. Tak-

ing past performance as a

£35 a month to a monthly pay-

ment of £75 and paying it into

a Virgin All-share tracker fund will yield £28,000 after

ten years, compared with £21,000 without the skincare

If you choose to pay the ex-tra money, added to a

£75 monthly contribution. into

Virgin's cash Isa, which pays

£6.875 over five years assuming constant interest rates. If

you add it to a £75 monthly

pension contribution with Vir-

gin Direct, it can make the dif-

ference between a final fund of

£129,000 and one of £172,000,

assuming that the fund grows

by 9 per cent. So for a comfort-

able and wrinkle-free retire-

ment, ignore the pseudo-scien-

tific babble of the girls from

the cosmetics counter and

Paula Hawkins

head for the high street.

per cent, you can save

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night lotion, E36 for extra-firm-

ing cream and £25 for an anti-

According to the Clarins

head office, the range is suita-

ble for men and women, al-

though men are less likely to

buy cellulite cream. If you buy

œllulite product.

change as they pass

through genera-

tions) and selection

(not all genes get

passed on). In the

same way, Black-

more argues, a skill

or idea can be inher-

ited. It can vary as it

is transmitted, and

people do not pass

on everything they

hear, read or learn.

metics can. Black-

more claims, ex-

plain why creative

professions, which are good at spread-

ing memes, are deemed more sexy than others. Artists, thinkers, writ-

ers and musicians can be thought of

as talented imitators, with their crea-

tivity and innovation a natural by-

product of their gift for imitation.

That is why Gerard Depardieu and

Mick Jagger, who are not every woman's idea of male perfection, ap-

pear to be highly desirable to the op-

This idea apparently resolves an enigma — evolutionary theorists

have been hard-pressed to explain

why art and music have evolved.

and why their exponents are so re-

Blackmore's serious treatment of this controversial idea has earned a

mixed response. Dawkins, who

penned the foreword to The Meme

Machine, admires Blackmore for

developing the theory of memetics

but has not stated whether he sub-

scribes to her belief that memes

shaped the human mind.

The science of me-

"I think he thinks I have gone too"

far," she says, laughing. The palae

ontologist Stephen Jay Gould has called memes "a meaningless meta-

Blackmore replies: "If I was says aing, 'Look at genes, aren't they suc.

cessful? Memes are the same and

aren't they wonderful? then people:

would be right to say it's just a meta-

phor. But that's not what I'm say.

ing. There are a million differences

between genes and memes. The only similarity between them is

that they are both replicators, and

once you get replicators you have

ously true. Things are copied by us,

and these things compete for space

The philosopher Mary Midge-ley, based at Newcastle University,

says that reducing humans to mere

vehicles for the propagation of

memes and genes is morally impoverished: "What upsets people is

that once we realise we are a prod-

uct of these two replicators, genes-

and memes, we are forced to drop

the idea of the self, and people

don't like this idea that there is no

Blackmore points out that the lack of "a self" is also a tenet of Bud-

dhism, which she practises. Does

the inclusion of her beliefs devalue

tions in my science as I do in my

personal life," she says. "When I

practise Zen, I have to ponder ridic-

ulous questions such as What is

this moment?" But these are the

same questions that science is try-

ing to answer. I don't think science

has a heart if we don't relate it to

The Meme Machine is published

by Oxford University Press (£18.99)

and is available to Times readers for £15.99; telephone 0990 134459.

the way we live our lives."

"I struggle with the same ques--;

in our brains."

soul and no spirit."

her scientific argument?

Now that I've seen it, it is so obvi-

IN CANCER research, success is

always just around the corner. Despite

the hillions spent on research, and fre-

quent headlines about breakthroughs.

cures have not been found, and even

the more modest objective of extending

Dr John Bailar of the University of

Chicago has long courted unpopularity

by pointing this out. Two years ago in

the New England Journal of Medicine

he noted that while there have been im-

provements in treatment, the effects on life expectancy have been small and

that age-related deaths from cancer are

barely declining. Between 1970 and

1994, which included President Nixon's

rose by 6 per cent in the United States.

'Seriously disappointing' is how he

describes the past 40 years of research

Last week Dr Bailar was joined by

into the treatment of cancer.

life has proved elusive.

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rors of large optical telescopes require grind-

ing and polishing of exquisite precision, which makes them very expensive. Now a group of astronomers from Laval University in Quebec suggests that mirrors up to eight metres in diameter could be made

SCIENCE

BRIEFING

Nigel

Hawkes

Cheaper peeper

tive anti-cancer drug. He

says: "For years 1 have been saying that this is the

first platinum-based drug

we discovered. It can't pos-

sibly be the best. It's disap-

pointing that the scientific

community has not-been

able to find better ones.

What great advances have

we made in curing cancer

since 1970? Cisplatin and.

its derivative, carboplatin,

are the only major changes

that have been made in

chemotherapy.

cancer, is another candidate, but it is

hard to disagree that returns from so

placed in a spinning platter and be deformed to produce a perfect parabolic shape.

The problem has been that such a mirror, using mercury as the liquid, would work only when pointing upwards, which made it unattractive.

Drs Ermanno Borra, Anna Ritcey and Etienne Artigau suggest that liquids based on viscous glycerine would stay in a parabolic shape as the mirror tilted. By coating the liquid with a thin layer of metal, they hope to creare a highly reflective surface. PhysicsWeb says that the design can cope with a 10-degree tilt, and the hope is to boost

groaning with information. Among the most interesting was

evidence presented by AstraZeneca that the latest fashion in cancer therapy, anti-angiogenesis, may be worth pursuing. The idea is to starve a tumour by cutting off its ability to create blood vessels. Dr George Blackledge, head of new cancer projects at the company, presented data showing that a compound known only as ZD4190, tested on five different animal species and on several tumour types,

That might be rather a slowed growth of the tumours. The compound can be taker cause tamoxifen, for breast mouth - a hig advantage - and Dr Blackledge is "very enthusiastic" about it. Clinical trials in human patients much research have so far been scanty. should start in Britain and the United

Association for Cancer Research in

Philadelphia, which ends today, added

yet more studies to an archive already

morning when you were

lying in bed listening to the radio. Has anything

that you heard lingered in your mind? The catchy Flat Eric song featured in the Levi's ad or a particu-

larly limp pun proffered by the DJ?

Or have you been mulling over the

These items are not merely snip-

pets of information that we lock

away in our heads, according to Dr

Susan Blackmore, senior lecturer in psychology at the University of the West of England in Bristol and author of The Meme Machine. They

are examples of "memes" - ideas.

inventions, skills or stories that get

passed from one person to another.

We copy or imitate one another in

myriad different ways, and the

things that we copy are the memes.

lent collection of memes (known as a memeplex), usually spread by par-ents, who are excellent meme

machines. They show their chil-

dren how to tie shoelaces, how to

greet people, how to eat with a knife

and fork. Blackmore boldly sug-

gests that it is this capacity for imi-

tation that sets human beings apart

from their ancestors, why the human brain evolved to be unusual-

ly large, and why culture plays

such an important role in our lives.

an enormous brain because it was

of benefit to our genes," says Black-

more. "For example, it made us bet-

ter hunters or foragers. But there

are other animals that hunt and for-

age with much smaller brains. And

there is a high price for having a large hrain — childbirth is difficult

and large hrains consume a lot of

energy. I propose that as soon as

early human beings started imitat-

Conventional evolutionary theory

suggests that the human brain swelled as humans became social

ing, things changed

People assume that we evolved

Religion is a particularly preva-

grim bulletins about Kosovo?

This week's meeting of the American

that to 20: half the viewing an-gle of a normal telescope.

Slow progress in care for cancer Plagued by a puzzle



construction work in Athens could answer a

oms described from the right period, could

contain matching DNA. the DNA may not be high, admits Professor Robert Littman of the University of Hawaii, a specialist in ancient medicine. but it is probably the only way

A GROUP of

Is the brain just a

copying machine?

The theory of memes — copying ideas or

skills - suggests that imitation has a key

role in evolution. Anjana Ahuja reports

more says that the

social skills evolved

because they were

needed for imita-

imitation allowed

early human beings

to make tools by con

ying someone else

rather than learn-

ing from scratch.

habits of someone

who has worked out

what is safe to eat is

less perilous than

finding out by trial and error. In this

way the best human

into a copying machine.

imitators had an advantage. Genes

that conferred the ability to imitate

won out over a few million years,

the human hrain developed rapidly

The most successful memes

the skills and ideas that are copied

most frequently - are those related

to survival. The Internet is an excel-

lent way of spreading memes, and

the most popular subject on it is

sex." Blackmore notes. Science and

religion persist because they appeal

to our need to explain our origins.

1976 when Richard Dawkins was propagating the idea of the "selfish

gene" which, the Oxford University biologist contended, was merely

one example of a replicator. Just as

genes get passed around, ideas and beliefs and habits — which he chris-

tened memes - get passed on too.

ary system which mirrors that of

genes. Genes are subject to heredi-

Such memes fit into an evolution-

The idea of memes dates back to

opying the eating

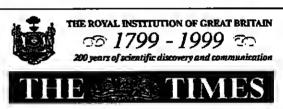


160 corpses unearthed during

longstanding puzzle: what disease caused the plague that killed 100,000 Athenians, induding Pericles, in 429BC? Historians have made many guesses, but the most plausihle, says David Durack, a consulting Professor of Medicine at Duke University, is typhus.

This disease fits the sympdides, a survivor, Dr Durack told a conference earlier this year at the University of Maryland. Rashes, blindness and the loss of organs because of gangrene fit the diagnosis. So does the time taken for the victims to die. Typhus is caused by Rickettsia prowazekii, a pathogen that has had its entire DNA sequence worked out. So the corpses, which date

The chances of extracting to test the theory.



SCIENTISTS FOR THE NEW CENTURY

Why do some people find cartoons and soap operas as challenging as mental arithmetic? On Wednesday April 28, in How the Brain reads the Mind. Dr Francesca Happe from the Institute of Psychiatry will discuss how autism has come to be regarded as a form of "mind-blindness." She will also show how our brains allow us to guess what others are thinking.

The lecture will be chaired by Professor Susan Greenfield, Director of The Royal Institution. Members of the audience will also be

The lecture will be held at 7.30pm at The Royal Institution of Great Britain, 21 Albemarle Street, London W1X 4BS.

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Hand-me-downs: children mimic their parents behaviour, which plays a vital role in the evolution process

berg of Michigan State

University, who in the Sev-

enties discovered the cura-

tive powers of platinum-

based drugs such as cis-

platin. For once the word

cure can be properly used.

Cisplatin can cure almost

100 per cent of testicular

cancers, and results to be

published this week in the

New England Journal

show that when combined

with radiotherapy it can

cut deaths from cervical

cancer by up to 50 per cent.

sults, and Professor Rosen-

berg, now retired, is "euphoric" about

them. But he is also concerned. Cis-

platin was discovered more than 25

years ago yet remains the most effec-



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THE LEWIS LAND

MEW CENTURY

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A rift? There is no rift



auren Booth is the poor relation whom we all expected to get nich on the back of her half-brother-inlaw, Tony Blair, and her half-sister Cherie Blair (with whom she shares a father, the actor Tony Booth). She's 31, lives in a shared rented flat on the periphery of Muswell Hill, in North London, and her most impressive possession is a maroon G-reg Escort convertible with leather bucket seats. If she has traded on the family connection - which most people would agree she has - then so far she

hasn't got a very good price for it. Perhaps that could be about to change. Having subsisted for the past couple of years on a series of columns (Evening Standard, New Statesman, but not The Sun, which rebuffed her agent), she has landed a job presenting her own Channel 5 show. My Secret has a confessional format, with "ordinary people" dropping bomblets about themselves to their nearest and dearest.

She's thrilled about the whole thing. This is clear from the moment she opens the door, clutching a bowl of muesli (it's 8am) and smiling manically. She's 5ft Ilin, and looks a bit like an overgrown Jane Horrocks, with the same jagged, upturned smile. Blade-thin except at the hips, there's some thing slightly off-centre about her - in more ways than one.

he leads me into the kitchen, where she peers through a side-window to see if her flatmate's curtains are closed - "Damn, he's got the radio in there, and I want to listen to the Today programme." This is an odd thing to say when I have just arrived to interview her, but I let it go. She resumes her breakfast, telling me about her new show between mouthfuls, "It's a great slot because it's 7pm, which is a new slot for Channel 5."

"It's a fun show," she goes on. "We want lots of laughs - that's why they got me. When I do the BBC Breakfast News la newspaper review slotl, everybody says. Oh my God, I don't believe she said

This is a common reaction to Lauren Booth. Similar words have probably been uttered within No 10. Since the general election, Lauren has dropped a series of little bomblets, which have caused slight embarrassment to her famous relatives. In truth, her incendiary devices should have had greater force, but they have been deployed a little randomly.

There was the anti-hunt speech she made at the 1997 conference; the diary column in The Spectator where she referred to herself as a

Lauren Booth strongly denies that her activities have strained her links with the Blairs. Interview by Grace Bradberry

'I was

really

have

"Valkyrie-like goddess" and to Tony Blair as her "charming, Mar-mite-sandwich-making brother-in-law" who changed into "Our Leader": most recently she wrote an article for Tribune praising Ken Livingstone and suggesting the Labour leadership should drop its opposition to him running for mayor. The following day, Livingstone declared that Blair was worse than Mrs Thatcher", thus underlining her disloyalty. Did she

not think she'd gone too far? think disagreement healthy," she says defiantly. Not very new Labour, I remark. They are certainly a strong enough party to withstand someone with a point of view," she pronounces. Wasn't she at least taken aback by Livingstone's Thatcher remark? "God, it's

not my business lo know what Ken Livingstone is going to say from one day to the next," she says, laugh-ing. She is clearly rather proud of the answers she is giving. The trou-ble with Lauren Booth. however, is that she is as transparent as a wet T-shirt compedition. The facts of her adult life are these: she went to drama school, became an actress, struggled to make a good living. To-

wards the 1997 election she got involved in Arts for Labour, based at John Smith House. She abandoned acting altogether just before the election, went up to Sedgefield for the count, went to the party at the Royal Festival Hall, then promptly relaunched herself as a journalist after gaining a media agent at about the same time. Rarely has there been a more brazen attempt to cash in on a rela-tive's success, but Lauren spins and spins, refusing to let this stick. "It was chance, the way I look, the way I am. You know, people are going to recognise that," is how she explains the Lauren Booth post-election phenomenon.

It's a shame, because I have every sympathy with her opportunism. She hadn't had an easy life, and deserved a break. The new Labour ticket was it. Why not cash it in? If only she would acknowledge this we could all move on.

Born Sarah Booth (she adopted Lauren as a stage-name), she and ber sister Emma are the products of Tony Booth's relationship with Pamela "Suzie" Smith, a Sixties model. Their father drank.

When Lauren was 12, her mother locked the door on a drunken Booth and he accidentally set himself on fire. Lauren tried and failed to unbolt the door, hearing his shouts but unable to help. Her father was in hospital for months and it was during that period that Lauren first got to know Cherie Blair and discovered that the woman she'd met several times before was actually a

Tony Booth never came home again. Lauren and Emma were sustained by their grandmother who literally brought food parcels, and had the girls to stay at weekends. Eventually, Lauren moved in with her grandparents, before gaining a

place at drama school. During that period, she was a frequent dinner guest at the Blair house-So in many ways Lau-

ren Booth is a survivor. She spent her teenage annoyed years staying out until 5am, drinking Jack Danwe didn't iels and hanging out with other scarcely cared-for offspring of bohemian parents. The legacy of this is that an affair' Booth is an accom-

plished "mucker". She can make friends in bars, pick up mates at Labour conferences, work her way into the centre of things. "I'll go up to someone and say, 'So, when are you having

this party? I'm coming along."
This was pretty much her approach to new Labour as the election grew closer - but it proved difficult to get in on this particular party. She worked for Arts For Labour, but as she says, "All the big people, come the general election, Millbank were in control of. They sort of shunted them away from us. You can't have any old bod like me call-ing Mick Hucknall."

She's brought up that name, so I take the plunge: is it true you went out with him? "Well, not romantically, but I did go for two nights out with him. I was really, really annoyed that we didn't have an affair. I was too shy."

With scarcely a pause, she goes on to describe how she got to meet the Simply Red singer in the first place. "I saw him at the first big gala event after we won the elec-

tion. I was a big fan and I went up and started singing." She spreads out her arms and dances towards the sink as she re-enacts this scene.

"Months later - I don't know whether I bumped into him, or whether I had his number from the . . . " The Labour Party's contact book, she may have been about to say. "... anyway. I rang him up and said, 'It's me. I sang in front of you at conference'." They had dinner. went to see Eddie Izzard, visit-

ed him backstage, but that was it.
Generally speaking, this appears
to be Lauren Booth's modus operandi. At the Parliamentarian of the Year Awards, sponsored by The Spectator, she spotted Alan Clark across the room, and suggested they had lunch. He agreed - but didn't set a date. Did it ever happen?"It didn't." Perhaps he was too busy - or perhaps Clark saw trouble stamped on Lauren Booth's forehead.

Throughout the interview she regales me with more tales of how she went up to this person, that person, said such and such, and they were first aghast then amused, in an indulgent sort of way. She relies, you might say, on the amusement of strangers. In the corridors of LBC she bumped into Ken Living-stone, and said, "Oh my God, you are Ken Livingstone," to which he apparently replied: "I would never have had the gall to speak to someone, an elder, the way you just did." "I went, 'Oooh, you've very grand.' He went, 'You're funny'." Now they have dinner. "That's nothing political, It's just two people who like a glass of wine and can laugh."

hen did she join the Labour Party? "I don't know. Probably eight, nine years ago. don't know. Recently. Who knows." This is a very odd reply. Lauren Booth has spent much of her life on the periphery, trying to reach the centre. She tells me she likes to hear the crew talking through her earpiece when she's on set, otherwise she might feel left out. I ask about her relationship with her father, and she says: "Dad's got a new family now, he's remarried, and he's got a group of kids around him. He's a family man of the moment, and he's got that family. I don't see him a lot.'

When I ask whether her activities haven't strained relations with the Blairs she insists: "There's no rift. There's no rift." But she won't say the last time she visited No IO. This week, she's off to Labour's gala dinner - at the invitation of Tony Banks, the Minister for Sport.

 My Secret is on Channel 5, Monday, 7pm, beginning April 19.

Here, the breakfast hours are aching to be filled

Friday: "Oh George Stephanopoulos is so over." groans Nadia when I try to interest her in a power breakfast where the President's former aide will be in conversarion with Walter Isaacson, the Editor of Time. Peter, of course, has scoffed at the idea of a meeting that starts at 7.30am. And in London, it's true, nothing would have persuaded me to attend a breakfast lecture. But here, the hours from 6 to 9am are viewed as time aching to be filled, and not just by joining the early-bird run around the Central Park reservoir.

The tradicion of the literary breakfast was started here by Harry Evans in his days as publisher of Random House. His 8am breakfasts, held at Barneys department store, where the literao would argue about Proust over their patisserie, were scrapped after his departure. Now the baton has been picked up by the 92nd Street Y, the famous arts and sports centre on the Upper East Side which, responding to demand, has just started its own Books and Breakfast series.

It's my first visit to this Manhattan institution and as I arrive at 7am dozens of people are filing out from the gym. their dawn workout already done. Outside the main door it's like a theatre as the crowd stands clutching tickets and waiting for friends. Breakfast with George was sold out weeks ago and a stream of disappointed young women are being

turned away at the door. On the second floor the Bultenweiser lecture theatre has been transformed into a smart restaurant with 25 tables each laden with fresh flowers. goblets of freshly squeezed OJ, baskets of warm muffins, and bagels with cream cheese and smoked salmon. Seating is free-range so I plump for a central table. "Have you been to one of these breakfasts before?" I ask the fortysomething woman sitting opposite me.



"Oh yes, these definitely work for me," she says briskly. "My concentration is better at this time. Now I'm a little hungry

What've we got here?" Her fingers hesitate above a decadent chocolate muffin before diving for a chaste bagel. "Put

it this way, I'm a

I go to a lecture be-

tween 8 and 10pm.

then my evening's

shot. This way I

squeeze something

extra into my day."

rific idea." says her

"I think it's a ter-

A stream working person. If of young women are being companion with a turned nod, helping her-self to a bowl of away swollen mulberries

with chunks of fresh coconut and melon. "I came to the Jimmy Carter breakfast and it was a perfect way to start my day. Hey, in 90 minutes I'll be at my desk but I figure I got a

head start on everyone else!" At 7.35am George and Walter slip on to the small stage. "Hello Mr and Mrs Stephanopoulos." says Walter, waving to George's parents, who are loyally munching muffins at a stageside table. They wave back. Stephanopoulos Sr is a Greek Orthodox bishop, but

this morning he's in mufti. "George is the most reflective and introspective person I've met in politics," Walter adds by way of introduction, and they grin their approval. Our guests then embark on the

> George's parents are loyally munching muffins at a table

stickers Disney hustles into the empty seat next to me. It's up again; you musn't underes-Russ Smith, one of the city's wealthier mavericks, and owner-editor of the New York Free Press, a weekly conservative free-sheet, and author of The Mugger, a column that constantly berates liberal journalists. He produces an old camera from his bag and darts up to the front of the stage where, crouching low. he starts taking illicit snap-

shots like an excited teenager

at a rock concert. "I've been a

morning's discus-

sion, kicking off

with their thoughts

on the American re-

sponse to Kosovo

which Walter sug-

gests is "breathtak-

ingly ill-conceived".

the audience nod

their support as

George declares

it's "too early to

judge". A man with

a briefcase dotted

with dinosaur and

Several heads in

friend. It's enticing."
"Which means that you get extra hurt and extra betrayed when it goes wrong," says Stephanopoulos bitterly. In front of me a smart woman pulls out a laptop from a Kate Spade bag and starts pound-ing away at her keyboard.

"Now that's annoying," says her neighbour, complaining loudly in a vigorous New York kind of way. Across the table a man and an attractive woman swap business cards with the discreet dexterity of seasoned croupiers. "Any ques-tions?" asks Walter, opening it up to the rest of us. Hands strain but my neighbour. Russ Smith, leaps to his feet first. "George, what did you think of the New York Times reviewer who called you a whiner?" "I heard about the review in advance. says George. "And when I bought the paper I folded the

bad boy," he whispers proudly when he returns to his seat.

On stage Stephanopoulos

rattles through his time with the Clintons in the tones of a

wounded lover. "Bill Clinton is

just about the most seductive

person you can meet " agrees

Isaacson. "You feel like he's part of a magic force field. He makes me feel as if I'm his best

Book Review in half and threw it Finally, we address the question exercising New Yorkers most is Hillary going to run against the Mayor for the Senate? George thinks not. "Everything

would be dredged timate how much she wants to do something on her own." Four minutes later and the hall is empty, everyone on their way to work. "Will you

come back for another one?" I

ask my female neighbour as we squeeze into the elevator. "Look, it's only 8.40am," she says, "and I've already had great intellectual stimulation. It's a nice short format and you get to meet people. Would I come again? Go figure."

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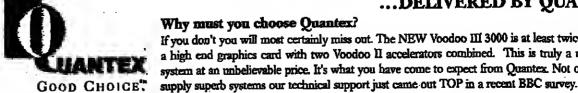


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Culture v Anarchy, in the UK

Englishmen must learn how to

be gentle, says Roger Scruton

he most important is-sue in the forthcoming elections to the new Scottish parliament is Scotland. Whether by conscious design, or by the working of that "invisible hand" which the great Scottish philosopher Adam Smith discerned in all spontaneous co-operation. Scotland will sooner or later become an independent state. It will retain formal links with the United Kingdom; but it will have as much, and as little, sovereignty as any other state in the European Union. Its independence will come about more smoothly than that of the emerging Balkan states. For Scotland is a public-spirited and law-abiding country; it has its own legal system; and it has no neighbours apart from England, which would not conternplate war or even sanctions when faced with the alternative of divorce.

But where does this leave the rest of us who have thought of ourselves as Brit-ish? The idea of Britain grew from a unique political his-tory. But it gained credibility from economic and military success, and in particular from an Empire acquired, as Joseph Chamberlain put it, "in a fit of absentmindedness".

The Scots, the Welsh and the Irish shared in this absentmindedness, which is but another name for Smith's "invisible hand". Yet without the British Empire. and without the Union, Britain will be a fiction --- worse, a delusion. There

that this is so. They

sensual pleasure will be no such is now place, and no such presented The English, beas good ing pragmatic, will

will look around for the customs and institutions that have defined them, and which have made it so easy to live without a clear idea of who they are. But what will they find? A Parliament hastily and purposelessly reformed, so as to bear little relation to the 'Queen in Parliament" of old: a monarchy irreversibly weakened by the destruction of the hereditary. House of Lords; a common law qualified out of existence by European courts: an Anglican Church riven by self-doubt and with its liturgy in tatters; and — worst of all a Government obedient to continental masters. They will

compatible. They will, instead, set out in search of their

civilisation - the continuous

tradition of which gives them

a claim to nationhood equal to

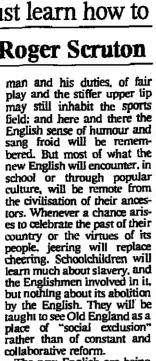
that of the Scots and Serbs.

And they will discover that

they have forgotten it.

find themselves in the very situation that they have fought for five centuries to avoid and for which the idea of Britain was devised as a shield. It is hard to believe that the English will not react as other people in the modern world have reacted, by defining themselves as a nation. They will not, like the Serbs, lay belligerent claim to their "historic" territories; they will not engage in pogroms or ethnic cleansing: they will not attempt the "splendid isolation" attributed to the Empire, at a time (1896) when splendour and isolation were just about

Scotland to the Scots.



The new English are being brought into a world without memory, in which nothing except sensual pleasure is represented as a good. The essence of English civilisation can be captured in a single word: "gentle". And those who love England still love it for its gentility and gentleness. From Voltaire to Capek, foreign admirers have seen England less as a political reality than as a moral ideal. The question is, how is that ideal to be defended?

Schools and universities have made no stand against the more degenerate forms of

Only

popular culture, but instead have begun to "teach" it. Throughout the culestablishment, from the Royal Academy to the BBC, from the Proms to the Royal Fine Art Commission, we find growing acquiescence in our cultural decline. The Turner Prize is regularly

awarded to the person who has most visibly desecrated the legacy of Turner; buildings which sneer at their civilised surroundings are put forward by the RIBA as triumphs of urban design and their architects rewarded with knighthoods. There is an eagerness to accept that our national culture is exemplified by Britpop, even at a time when the "Brit" is as meaningless as the pop.

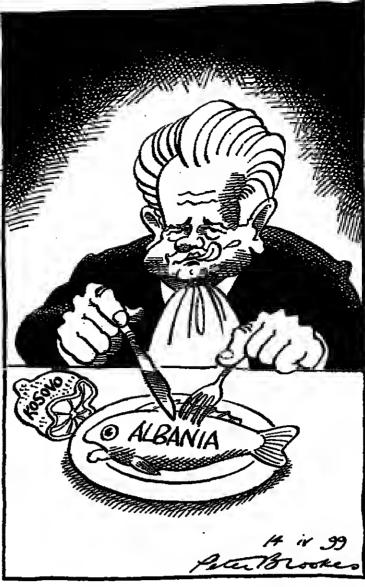
ne might be tempted

to conclude from this

that English civilisation was, after all, a fragile and ephemeral thing, with no ability to survive once the protecting shield of British-ness has been taken away. But I am not so pessimistic. We are living through a state of shock, and only when our political institutions have crumbled which, thanks to new Labour, will be soon - will we be able to make the great choice which history demands of us. Then we will recognise that, after all, our country is something more than its institutions, and that the good things we have squandered were created by collective effort. Then we can begin again, as all the other people of Europe have had to begin again in our century. discovering what we are, not as a collection of first-person singulars, but as a first-person plural. The English will then emerge as a nation, as important to its members as is

Vague ideas of the gentle- comment@the-times.co.uk





Suckers for punches

m l completely wrong about Kosovo? Have l missed some vital point? Those who fight wars must banish doubt from their minds, since doubt is the enemy of courage. Those who criticise them enjoy no such security. If those who oppose Nato's bombing campaign in Yugoslavia are wrong, they are a menace to the war effort. Tony Blair this week put this war on a par with the 1939 fight against Hitler. We must not again appease dictators, he says. A line has been drawn in the sand. So stop blurring that line,

Such lines are indeed important. We drew them in the Falklands and in Kuwait. The essence of collective world action is that national boundaries should not be changed by force. Wars fought to restore the sovereign integrity of nations are thus just wars. The case against Provident Milosopid has been stated. President Milosevic has been stated likewise, but with little conviction. President Clinton and Mr Blair have tried to portray Mr Milosevic as another Hitler, intent on destabilising the whole Balkans and even dominating Europe, in order to justify Nato's aggressive bombing. But they have been ridiculed by a flurry of pundits. The real casus belli in Kosovo is different - the ruthlessness with which Mr Milosevic has treated his own separatists. The case, in essence, is that the man

is a monster and "must be stopped". So what is wrong with that? For evil to triumph, it is necessary only for good men to do nothing. Hamlet summoned us to "find quarrel in a straw when honour's at the stake". and warned us against "some craven scruple of thinking too precisely on the event". Is Nato's

honour not at stake in Kosovo? Nato's leaders are certainly making it so. But whereas honour's stake was clear in the Falklands and Kuwait, in Kosovo it is wobbly. Every continent is awash in Kosovotype conflicts. In former Yugoslavia, Britain recognised Croatia and Bosnia as states, despite knowing that the outcome would be ethnic cleansing. President Tudjman of Croatia, supported by the Americans, did to his Serb population in 1994-95 exactly what Mr Milosevic is doing to his Kosovans: killing thousands and expelling hundreds of thousands. I do not recall shrill cries from Mr Blair for the bombing of Zagreb. Britain took no action in defence of the Krajina Serbs or the Bosnian minorities, at least until

Bomb-happy Nato should realise

there is an alternative to world war

licensed by the UN at the end of the is that it implies an even greater civil war. Why has it so ferociously espoused the Kosovo Albanians? The question can be answered by appeals to expediency, but Mr Blair yesterday said this was a war of "moral purpose". It is the apparent double-standard that enrages Serb

double-standard that enrages Serb opinion and gathers it, however reluctantly, behind Mr Milosevic.
Yet we are where we are. The gauntlet is down. Robin Cook talks of continuing with bombing "until the job is done". Anything less, he implies, would be nothing short of humiliation for Nato.
Even Henry Kiss-

Even Henry Kissinger, long an oppo-nent of this intervention, is a convert to the argument. Now that American forces are engaged in combat, he tells the Los Angeles Times, "victory is the only exit strategy" (an ominous phrase from Kissinger-of-Vietnam). But by victory he means ground assault, as the critics of the "bombing alone"

strategy have always claimed it would. And on this public statements of Nato and the British Government.

What is now planned on Kosovo's border with Macedonia and Albania is a mystery wrapped in a horror. But a land assault on Kosovo has one virtue. It would close the gaping wound at the heart of Nato's present apologia. Mr Blair was yesterday near frantic to tell the world that the ethnic "cleansing" of Kosovo had nothing to do with the Nato bombing. He said that Mr Milosevic planned it long ago and began it a week before the first bomb fell. Mr Milosevic, in other words, never intended only to crack down on the Kosovo Liberation Army but always meant to cleanse Kosovo of Albanians altogether. It is therefore a calumny against Nato to imply that the refugees are in any sense the result of the bombing.

The trouble with this explanation

calumny against Nato: that it was aware of the risk of humanitarian catastrophe and did nothing effective to stop it. It rejected as "too costly" the one military option capable of stopping it, the swift insertion of a rapid reaction force before the main Serb Army arrived, and recorted instead to the one and resorted instead to the one option most likely to win Serb support for Mr Milosevic, bombing Belgrade. Mr Blair asks us to believe that his colleagues read intelligence warnings of what was about to happen, and then voted for "bombing alone".

This was not "doing something about Milosevic but the was pure Munich. worth, I cannot believe that Mr Blair and his colleagues were so cynical. I prefer to see them as victims of their own naive interven-

tion in Yugoslavia's internal affairs and the consequent escalation of threats. Ministers who had never seen a gun they are at odds with at least the fired in anger were mesmerised by military bombast about the political

impact of "pinpoint accurate, laserguided weapons systems", despite their failure to move President Saddam Hussein in Iraq. Nato gambled that Mr Milosevic would not respond to bombing threats by a pre-emptive strike into Kosovo, but would agree some fudge as he did last October. The gamble failed. The refusal to deploy ground troops when Kosovo was largely undefended now seems cowardly and negligent Mr Milosevic was invited to call the bluff of the mightiest armies in the world and he did.

I repeat, the war party has not done something about Milosevic". ft has done nothing about him. The only honourable thing to do now is properly to go to war with him, yet British politicians still cannot stomach this logical outcome of their posture. Nato has been witness to, if

not party to, the displacement of almost a million Kosovans. Its response is not to restore them to their land but to destroy the oil and power, the roads, factories, bridges, trains and radio stations of a sizeable European state. Mr Milosevic may be "degraded" but he is politically impregnable, while the supposed beneficiary of this effort. Kosovo, is rendered a wasteland.

Having pulled Mr Milosevic on to the punch, the coherent policy would at least be to punch him properly — a policy to which gung-ho American opinion appears to be dragging the British Government But such a policy must be mad. The most it could attain is some heavily fortified "safe havens" in Kosovo. It would drag into the fight every Slav nationalist, not least from Russia. It would also send a signal to any separatist movement that if it can provoke enough mayhem to "threaten a humanitarian disaster", bellicose Nato politicians will come rushing to its aid. A dozen such groups must be enviouswatching the KLA's booming armouries at present. This is not "world policing" but anarchy.

ato had no business in half-heartedly sponsoring negotiations over Kosovan autonomy. It was not invited to do so, and made a hash of it. It has no more business in Romania or Kurdistan or Azerbaiian or, for that matter. Basque Spain or Northern Ireland. Kosovo's autonomy remains where it was when Britain "recognised" the new, truncated Yugoslavia: at the mercy of Mr Milosevic. To invade its deserted valleys and try to bold them against Serb forces would be costly and pointless. To subject Serbia to an indefinite, purely

punitive blitz would be obscene. My answer to the question "what to do?" is therefore the same as it was last October. It is not to draw lines you have not the will to defend at proportionate cost. Non-intervention in foreign civil wars, coupled with generous aid to sufferers, has been normal British policy in the past. Most recently it has been policy in Ethlopia, Rwanda, Sudan, Palestine, Sri Lanka and Afghanistan. This is not a policy of cowardice or appeasement. Mr Milosevic is a nasty job of work but he is not Hitler or Stalin. He does

not merit a third world war. comment@the-times.co.uk

Secrets of war

CLASSIFIED information about Sir Winston Churchill's plotting for D-Day is to be made public after a persistent campaign for its release by Rupert Allason, aka Nigel West, To mark the 55th anniversary of the invasion, the former Tory MP has persuaded the powers-that-be to allow him to publish the details of Operation Fortitude.

The deception plan succeeded in he deception plan succeeded in hoodwinking the Germans into believing that the Allies would land at the Pas de Calais rather than Normandy. Details were originally secreted by Roger Hesketh, the late Tory MP who, as a spook, had helped to devise the operation.

But the information has since found its way into the hands of Allason, who writes spy thrillers under his pseudonym and, until now, has had to keep his find private: "At last," an historian tells me, "we will find out just how big a role Churchill played."

AFTER announcing her split from Andre Agassi, Brooke Shields (below) is to arrange o spot of laser surgery. She needs to remove the nome of her husband tottooed on her upper thigh during their courtship. With extraordinary prescience, the American tennis player never reciprocated.



AN ENGINEE

ABRI VIII OI I

■ THE Blairite television present er. David Aaronovitch, has been denounced by his mother for criticising Tony Benn's opposition to the war in the Balkans. Lavender Aaronovitch wrote to the veteran MP to tell him that she considers her son, the part-time Newsnight anchor, to be wrong and a fool.

"My mother said that she was a going to write but I didn't believe her," Aaronoviich Jr says. "She always says she wishes I hadn't said something or another but still comes over to look after the kids."

A NASTY diary clash for Lord Williams of Mostyn was yesterday resolved by quick-thinking whips. The Home Office Minister was due at Windsor to be inducted by the Queen into the Privy Council, shortly before defending the age of consent Bill in the Lords. A friendly filibuster delayed the debate until my Lord arrived.

■ POLICE in Salisbury are to visit their colleagues in Notting Hill to f. pick up tips on how to handle the city's first Caribbean carnival next month (below). One question the Wiltshire bobbies should ask is how to escape looking ludicrous as they place their helmets on the heads of gyrating limbo dancers.



"Even more important than tanks and guns was the steadfast political will of the people." Has Blair suffered a memory lapse? In the early Eighties, the PM belonged to the CND's parliamentary group which backed withdrawal from Nato. ■ WHY has William Hague asked

Michael Portillo to join him on the hustings? The former Defence Secretary and a possible leadership contender has embarked on a national tour to drum up support for the Tories in next month's local government elections.

Hague has even gone so far as to provide Portillo with one of the bright young things from his own office to offer every assistance. "It is a possible precursor to making Portillo the party chairman." I am told, "but is also a good way of sharing the blame if the elections 20 horribly wrong."

EDWARD WELSH

'For the Royal Wedding, Mary has, after long deliberation, decided on a size 12 made for her by C&A, in a sort of turquoise' first couple to pass the rigorous selection process: and having more than 50 minutes, but he has around, and a sensible cameras as the Royal Couple matching bag. John will wear his brown emerge on to the steps of St

🕻 🆊 ou will, i know, have been as thrilled as I to learn that 2,000 "ordinary people" are to be invited to the wedding of Prince Edward and Miss Sophie Rhys-Jones, and you will thus be on tenterhooks. as public fascination with the preparations for the summer nuptials swells to its crescendo, to discover as much as possible about that lucky handful who will, any day now, find their trembling fingers plucking from their doormats the coveted pasteboard requesting their presence at what is already being described by the more excitable tabloids as The Wedding of June

Well, you have come to the right person: correctly recognising that, as an Ordinary Correspondent, I stand head and shoulders above nobody, the Palace has granted me exclusive access to its fat dossier on the and a milky coffee. They married

spent the whole of last night nodding over this scrupulously mundane document, I can this morning reveal to a rapt public just a few of the details it is slavering to know. John and Mary Robinson, 53 and 49 respectively, met 27 years ago at a Woking garden centre.

Neither of them was a keen gardener - he was looking for a small rubber plant to put on his television set, and she wanted three pansies of different colours to replace the three dead ones in ber window-box — but standing next to one another at the till. they discovered a mutual interest in the new decimal currency, agreeing that both missed the old half-crown. From there, it was but a short step to the local Wimpey, where each had a quarter-pounder, without cheese,

two years later, and continued having sex on a weekly basis in their new joint flat, moving, in 1976, to an architect-designed semidetached house on a Reigate executive estate, as soon as John qualified, in his opinion, as an executive. It was here that their two children. Peter John and Wendy Mary were born, soon to be joined by the half-collie, Spot, and Mrs

Lockett. 51, who came in to do for them three days a week after Mrs Robinson returned to her career as a roofing secretary. For the Royal Wedding, Mary

has, after long deliberation, decided on a size 12 dress made for her by C&A, in a sort of turquoise, with black patent leather shoes, chosen for a reliable record in standing

two-piece wool and poly-ester suit from Reigate Fuller Man, and is having his oxblood brogues specially re-soled by famed nationwide cobblers, Mister Minute. He has also confided to close friends that a new tie has not been entirely ruled out. He will, however, stick

to his old hairpiece, because it has always stuck to him. That is John's favourite joke. For the ceremony itself, he has already set his Ferguson video-recorder with the long-term programmer Mary bought him for their recent silver wedding; they plan to watch the recording on June 20 with a Domino's pizza (extra large, no anchovy), although both have agreed not to wave at

George's Chapel. Instead. John will raise his trilby as high as decorum permits. If this proves to be successful, a 10 by 8 print will be made from the tape by Snap-U-Like, Banstead, put in an antique-appearance frame. and stood on the mantelpiece between the couple's eight-day carriage clock and the bronzette plaque Wendy Mary received, in 1986, for good posture. The Robinsons will be trav-

elling from Reigate to

Windsor in their beige M-registration Vauxhall Cavalier, entering the M25 at Junction 8 and leaving it at Junction 13, advice John received from the Automobile Association, of which he has been a member for almost a quarter of a century. Experts there have assured him that the journey should not take decided, following complex dis-cussions with informed neighbours, to err on the side of caution and allow an hour-anda-half for traffic, parking, and dropping off Trish from Maison Geoff, who is coming to the Robinson home early that morning to rainproof Mary's highlights. Assurances have naturally been sought by Buckingham

Palace that the Robinsons will between now and June 19 do nothing out of the ordinary to draw attention to themselves, since this might well result in a withdrawal of the invitation, and the couple have, I understand, been quick to comply. However, informed sources tell me that, after an appropriate time has elapsed, John and Mary plan to commemorate the momentous day by double-glazing their en-

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CLEAR TARGETS

Why there can be no let-up in the bombing

Three weeks into an air war that many Western politicians hoped might be over in days, Nato has yet to make more than a small impact on the murderous Serb campaign in Kosovo. The Yugoslav Army is still bombarding villages, which Slobodan Milosevic's secret police and paramilitary forces can then empty and burn. Periodically, the Serbs reopen the borders to let through clumps of fugitives. Perhaps 600,000 more are trapped in Kosovo's mountains, probably without shelter, medicines or food. Air power cannot see or help them. But in the great Pannonian plain of the Yugoslav heartland, Nato airstrikes are having an increasingly devastating effect.

For nearly a decade. Mr Milosevic has flattened cities and entire communities in Croatia, Bosnia and now Kosovo; but this is the first time that the citizens of Belgrade, Novi Sad or Nis have had to endure the physical terrors of bombardment. Their suffering does not begin to be commensurate; where Serb forces and police deliberately hunted down non-combatants. Nato has put the avoidance of civilian casualties ahead of military effectiveness. In a battle of will as well as skill, the military value of every target has been set against the risks of civil damage. Knowing this, the military leaders are dispersing equipment to farms, woods and towns and siting anti-aircraft batteries in residential areas. Mr Milosevic's special police are taking over schools.

That, and the intensification of airstrikes, will raise the death toll. But tens of thousands more will lose their jobs as more factories are destroyed. The economic damage to Yugoslavia is already huge and will become crippling. Nato started bombing with only 200 aircraft and a narrowly defined range of targets; but General Wesley Clark could soon have 1,000 planes. If Mr Milosevic does not yield, he will literally, as well as politically, have ensured the destruction of his country.

Despite this grim prospect, there has so far been little argument in Nato about

what targets are legitimate. That is because before the campaign started, the military laid out its plans in detail, placing every target before the North Atlantic Council which then scrutinised and grouped them in terms of a graduated strategy. The agreed military concept was based on the recognition that the mobile columns and small paramilitary formations in Kosovo are hard to destroy from the air. The aim is therefore to cripple these forces by attacking the entire support system on which modern military operations rely.

The longer the campaign lasts, therefore, the grimmer will be its economic impact. Tanks cannot move without fuel: but nor can tractors, and Nato claims to have destroyed 70 per cent of Yugoslav petrol, oil and lubricant stocks. Factories turning out military trucks may also make cars; a bridge at Novi Sad carried fibre optic cables, but also commercial traffic: this week's attack on a railway bridge near Leskovac hit a passenger train. As our Defence Editor reports on page 5. Nato has damaged some 200 "target areas", some of them far from Kosovo. This remains an operation under close political control; hence the efforts to spare Montenegro, whose leaders have stood out against the subjugation of Kosovo. But inescapably, this tightening of the military screws will also pulverise the Yugoslav economy.

That is why Mr Milosevic expects Nato to waver. So long as he faces no personal danger, he may hold out whatever the cost to his countrymen; before the airstrikes began, he and his profiteering henchmen and relatives had already reduced the Yugoslav rump to lawless penury. Nato's campaign continues; but at some point it will have to weigh its options. At terrible cost, airstrikes will severely disrupt the Milosevic forces; but the sombre prospect remains that it may take ground troops, backed by massive air power, to drive them out of Kosovo. Preparations for that contingency are as urgent as ever.

ON PROBATION

Straw's tough choice looks more like a soft option

When a court sentences a criminal to services need to be able to make decisions probation, it should not be an easy option. for themselves and to take action quickly. It Probation is not a rap on the knuckles but a is not yet clear whether a national manacling, albeit gentle, it has to be seen as one of a range of punishments which might follow conviction for a criminal offence. Prison may work, but not in every case. Instead of incarceration.. many. offenders are sentenced to up to several hundred hours' work in the community and the intrusive supervision of their daily lives by a probation officer. But the feeling persists among many that the convict who walks out of the courtroom with just a probation order is practically a free man.

Last August Jack Straw, the Home Secretary, promised to toughen probation. A Home Office paper on co-operation between prisons and the Probation Service emphasised that punishment was a central part of the probation process. It set out plans for a National Corrections Policy Framework and a nationally run Probation Service. The paper even went so far as to suggest a new, more punitive name. It argued that justice should, however it is applied, be seen to be done. These radical proposals gave cause for hope.

A nationally run Probation Service has much to recommend it. This should enable clear standards to be set for probation services all over the country. Also, the reorganisation of local probation services into areas which correspond to police and Crown Prosecution Service boundaries should enable closer co-operation between all the law enforcement agencies.

Effective probation, however, is not easily secured by a central government department. Probation officers rely on their extensive local knowledge, gained from close contact with the criminals whom they supervise. Consequently, local probation Probation Service will mean a national bureaucracy and long delays as local initiatives are referred back to the Home Office for approval. Mr Straw should take care to ensure that this is not the case and that probation services retain the local autonomy which makes them work.

Mr Straw's stance on his other proposals appears to have softened. His retreat raises questions as to just how determined his reform of probation will be. In his speech to probation officers yesterday, there was no mention of renaming the service. Punishment was replaced by "Reduction of reoffending and a Nadonal Corrections Policy was nowbere to be seen. The only indication that life might become harder for criminals on probation was in Mr Straw's suggestion that probation orders should be enforced in all cases.

Consistency would at least be a step in the right direction. Only a third of breaches of probation orders are acted upon at present. Enforcement is the key to any effective change. A new national Probation Service can set whatever standards it likes. but, unless these are actually acted upon, they will be worthless. It is not yet clear how Mr Straw's standards will be enforced. Meanwhile, the greatest hurdle to change has not yet been cleared: when will Mr Straw find the parliamentary time to push his planned legislation through? In the next parliamentary session he will be concentrating on overhauling the Race Relacions Act after the Lawrence Inquiry. Probation is unlikely to make good election fodder for the year after. The Home Secretary, instead of taking a tough choice, may end up with a soft option.

A BREATH OF FRESH ARIA

Glyndebourne makes a sound move

For all its traditions of social propriety, of opulent picnic hampers and pre-Puccini Pimm's. Glyndebourne treasures a less established, more educative, intent. Although Mozart may have remained since the 1930s a mainstay of each season, the work of less familiar composers is often scheduled too. Directors are keen to dispel rumours that their productions are as easy on the palate as a glass of chilled Sancerre. And Glyndebourne's 1994 auditorium the first British purpose-built opera house since John Christie incorporated the original theatre into his Elizabethan mansion fifty years before - improved the acoustics as well as the seating capacity. It should not simply serve, its directors insist.

as a museum to classical pieces. Of course, as divas warm up at wistaria twined casements, any cummerbunded corporate types picnicking below may enjoy humming along to familiar arias as teaspoons of caviare slip deliciously down. But Glyndebourne's programme should amount to far more than the provision of a seasonal cultural perk for the fat cat whose

company made a block booking. Nicholas Snowman, the new general director of the opera house, puts a more challenging ethos to the test. He aims to th of fresh aria to the stage.

Celebrated old favourites will still be performed but, as we report on our arts pages today, Mr Snowman is on an ambitious mission to promote more esoteric works. He plans to revive Harrison Birtwistle's massive electronic opera The Mask of Orpheus, to commission the young British composer Thomas Ades, and to première What Next?, a complex new miniature opera by the American Elliott Carter. Even with the most commonly hummed composers, he will delve into the archives, reviving neglected works of Monteverdi with period instruments and embarking on a German Romantic project involving several 19th-century works previously considered unredeemable. Mr Snowman takes exciting risks - not

least at the box office. Often tastes are fine-tuned by familiarity. Palates are limited by lack of directorial daring. An introduction to a broader, more dissonant, cultural repertoire may chime with many imaginations. The intimacy of Glyndebourne lends itself to such individualistic enjoyment. As for any disappointed hummers out for a free supper in the sunset. they can pack an extra bottle of Pouilly Furné in their picnic baskets and snooze comfortably through the performance - as indeed they have traditionally done.

TERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London El 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Critics question Nato's campaign and its objectives

From Professor Sir Michael Howard

Sir. Professor Lawrence Freedman's article (April 9) about possible settlements for the Kosovo question raises some profoundly important issues for the conduct of the campaign.

Our ultimate objective, surely, is neither the resettlement of the refugees nor the punishment of Milosevic, but the creation of a stable settlement in the Balkans. This may best be done by the creation of a Nato protectorate over the whole of Kosovo. irrespective of the wishes of Serbia, or by some kind of agreed partition.

I am not an expert on the Balkans, but I can see the disadvantages of a condominium exercised by 19 or more Allies over a region that would still contain a resentful minority of Serbs, with an angry and revengeful homeland just beyond a long and indefensible border - a homeland made angrier and more revengeful with every bomb now being dropped. It seems a perfect recipe for a prolonged guerrilla war that would certainly keep Nato in business for the next century or so; but that is hardly the object of the exercise.

The alternative is a negotiated settlement that Serbia can live with, even if it does not sadsfy the maximal demands of either side. The danger is that public opinion in the West is now becoming so heated that any compromise settlement will be condemned as surrender or, worse, "appeasement" and no Allied leader will dare to recommend it. But the longer the war goes on, the less likely it is that this option will remain open.

Sometimes making peace requires as much courage as waging war.

Yours etc. MICHAEL HOWARD, The Old Farm. Eastbury, Hungerford RG177JN. April 13.

From Mr Crispin Blunt, MP . for Reigate (Conservative)

Sir. Many with military experience are bewildered as to how today's military leaders have allowed Nato's political leaders to get themselves into such a mess over Kosovo. They, and I, do not understand how Nato's military leaders can have allowed the organisation to embark on a military strategy that has been nothing short of an outrageous gamble given the political objectives set for it.

Against the humanitarian objectives given by the Prime Minister at the outset, the strategy has already failed. The political objectives of containment have failed. The objective of

From Mr Francis Bennion and

Sir, We write in support of Mr J. B.

McGuinness (letter, April 8), who

stated that the law lords had stepped

over the mark in their decision

regarding so-called institutionalised

discrimination against women. Un-

fortunately such judicial expansion-

ism is only too common today.

The former Home Office Minister,

Lord Patten, recently pointed out (article, March 16) that over the years

judges have taken more and more

powers to themselves", and that this,

when linked to the new constitutional

role that legislation is giving them,

radically alters the balance of power

in the State. It upsets that separation

of powers between legislator and judi-

ciary which is one of the proud boasts

Journal, March 19) one of the under-

signed, Francis Bennion, criocised the

decision of the law lords in the Klein-

wort Benson case. Here, by three to

two, they purported to overturn, as if

by parliamentary legislation, the

longstanding rule of the common law

that payments made under a mistake

of law are irrecoverable. One of the

majority, Lord Goff of Chieveley, blatantly described what they were

doing as the "abrogation" of this rule.

Abrogation equals repeal, and our

judges do not possess the repealing power. It seems that some of them are

In another recent article (New Law

of our constitution.

seeking to assume it.

Mr Gerald Howarth, MP

for Aldershot (Conservative)

reinforcing regional stability is being met by crises in Macedonia, Albania,

Montenegro and Greece. On the day the bombing started George Robertson told the House of Commons Defence Committee:

Our military objective - our clear, simple, military objective - will be to reduce the Serbs' capability to oppress the Albanian population and thus 10 avert a humanitarian disaster.

Who advised him that this could be achieved?

The Chief of Defence Staff, General Sir Charles Guthrie, has enthusiastically made the case for the current strategy in newspaper articles and at the daily press conferences. When ! asked the Defence Secretary on March 31 in the House to name a single independent commentator who believed that Nato's military strategy would deliver its political objectives, he took refuge behind the advice of the Chief of Defence Staff.

There remains a disconnect between the military strategy and the new political objectives of restoring the situation in Kosovo in the wake of the humanitarian catastrophe precipitated once Milosevic decided to take Nato on. The use of air power alone continues to be an irresponsible gamble as far as these new objectives are concerned. There is no clarity about how the military means willed so far can achieve the aim. Instead there is a classic case of mission creep, for example with the introduction of Apache helicopters and Multiple Launch Rocket Systems (report, April 12).

If Nato articulated a military strategy that, however long it took, would deliver its political objectives, the view from Belgrade would be very dif-ferent. There is no sign of this happening.

It is my judgment that it is un-reasonable to expect the Armed Forces to continue to have confidence in the military advice being given to ministers by their chief military adviser. I have very reluctantly come to the conclusion that this should be said publicly. We need a new strategy and a new chief to articulate it.

Yours faithfully, CRISPIN BLUNT, House of Commons.

From Sir Nicholas Pearson

Sir, In the matter of Serbia our Prime Minister is said to be motivated by the wholly Christian sense that, faced by such suffering, we must do something. It appears that after some days of harrowing images on the television,

Power of non-elected judiciary to change the law

The latter article also criticised another recent decision where the law

lords (again by three to two) purpor-

ted to change the longstanding com-

mon law rule that highways are only

to be used for passing and repassing, and matters incidental to that. The

Lord Chancellor, Lord Irvine of Lairg.

decided this was too constricted for

modern conditions. You reported him

To limit lawful use of the highway to that

which was literally "incidental or ancillary"

to the right of passage would be to place an unrealistic and unwarranted restriction on

commonplace day-to-day activities. The public highway was a public place that the

public might enjoy for any reasonable

The OED (second edition, 1994) de-

fines "warranted" as "allowed by law or authority; approved, justified, sanc-

tioned". The Lord Chancellor is say-

ing that the well-established existing

rule about highways is "unwarrant-

ed" when in fact it is just the opposite.

These matters go to the heart of how we are governed as a nation, and

affect everyone. In particular they

affect the business community, who

look to certainty in the law. The

growing propensity of judges to change the law whenever they see fit

is dangerous to our commercial

prosperity, as well as to our freedom.

by Parliament after full public consul-

tation and debate. They should not be

made by judges, who are appointed

not elected and lack the means to con-

Changes in the law should be made

(Law Report, March 5) as saying:

public opinion is moving behind him.

oon of infrastructure?

I suspect not for long.

May the unpalatable truth be that there is little we can effectively do without making the whole area even more unstable? Did the Americans learn nothing from their bombing of Cambodia and destabilisation and ruinacon that followed the destruc-

There is a chilling zeal and cenainty about the Prime Minister's fervour that stands at odds with the complex realities of an ancient tribal situation that, in itself, is simply not our business. Our leader's emotional calls to stop the violence are of course understandable but not by the paradoxical and wholly ineffective method

of bombing. We should immediately cease the bombing. We should seal off the area with strong Nato forces on the key borders in order to help the regional governments to maintain order and stability. We should provide massive humanitarian help where we are able. By this action Nato will have achieved order and been seen to achieve order.

We should then, for the moment, leave the region to sort out its own mess. When the parties choose to decide that economics are more important than killing each other, then we should help them all we are able.

Let us act with firmness and imaginadon and we may yet contain the contents of Pandora's box before it is

Sincerely, NICHOLAS PEARSON, 9 Upper Addison Gardens, W14 8AL.

From Mr M. H. Stevenson

Sir. The Nato official who banged on about the unfortunate loss of life in the attack on the Serbian rail bridge (report, April 13) should have responded to the question "Were there any civilian casualties?" by saying Yes. Next question".

There are many who seem to think it is possible to wage a war without incurring any loss of human life. History shows this to be a futile objective. It would be a far greater tragedy if

Nato allowed its resolve to be weakened by this event and demonstrated that Mr Milosevic is, indeed, as invulnerable as his followers would have us believe.

sult those affected and to acquire the

necessary background information.

Yours etc. M. H. STEVENSON, 92 imber Road, Winchester, Hampshire SO23 0NH. stevess@uk.ibm.com

Yours faithfully.

disease.

April 9.

FRANCIS BENNION.

GERALD HOWARTH.

c/o 5 Old Nursery View, Kennington, Oxford OXI 5NT.

From Sir Christopher Staughton

Sir, Naturally enough I share the con-

cem of Mr McGuinness at a recent

decision of the law lords, since it over-

ruled a decision of my own.

The right of refugees to asylum

granted by the Geneva Convention is,

it would seem, to be greatly extended.

But the remedy which he proposes

must be scrutinised with great care,

lest it turn out to be worse than the

That the selection process for the

judiciary should become "more open

and accountable" is fine. Are we then

to have judges elected by popular

vote, and dismissed in the same way?

In at least one country where that

happens there are cases — no doubt

rare - of quite improper pressure

being deliberately imposed on judges.

the method of appointing judges — for

We must tread warily in changing

by poliocians for populist reasons.

Yours truly, CHRISTOPHER STAUGHTON,

fear of something worse.

20 Essex Street, WC2R 3AL.

John Diamond's battle with cancer

From Mrs Verena Pentlow

Sir. John Diamond (book extracts, March 29 and 30; columns April 3 and 10) may fight shy of adjectives such as brave and courageous in his battle with cancer, but there can be few readers left unmoved by his

humble and humorous approach. As children, my two siblings and I lived, with our mother, through my father's long and brave battle with cancer. However, there was no communication about his illness, either between him and his doctors or with us as a family, and the effects are still with us today to the extent that I find this letter difficult to write.

Carry on John. enjoying your family and puppy, with openness, honesty and laughter. May you enjoy many more precious moments.

Yours faithfully. VERENA PENTLOW. 11 Wells Road. Riseley, Bedford MK44 IDY.

From Dr Justin Stebbing

Sir, From across the Atlantic my colleagues and I read John Diamond with deep affection and are reminded of a quote from the American author Theodore H. White (The Book of Beasts, Dover Publications, 1984):

The best thing for being sad . . . is to learn something. That is the only thing that never fails. You may grow old and trembling in your anatomies, you may lie awake at night listening to the disorder of your veins, you may miss your only love, you may see the world about you devastated by evil luna-tics, or know your bonour trampled in the sewers of baser minds. There is only one thing for it then — to learn. Learn why the world wags and what wags it.

This is the only thing which the mind can never exhaust, never alienate, never be tor-lured by, never fear or distrust, and never dream of regretting.

From you, John Diamond, we are as ever humbled and learn so much. Thank you always,

Sincerely. JUSTIN STEBBING. Department of Medicine. The Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore, Maryland 21205. jstebb@weichlink.weich.jhu.edu

Joy of birdwatching

From the Reverend Ian Stratton

Sir. When Burma became independent on January 4, 1948, Briosh Forces personnel sailed from Rangoon in the SS Empire Trooper. The servicemen on board received a surprise when the voice of the Officer Commanding Troops came over the Tannoy system, not with the expected disciplinary notices but describing the gulls following the ship and enthusing about one among them, a vagrant of a species normally found in northern waters.

One of those servicemen later became a birdwatcher himself, but unol reading your obituary notice of Lieutenant-Colonel C. L. Boyle (April he never knew the name of the enthusiast who had first shown him the joy the hobby can give, and the influence that sharing the joy can have.

Yours faithfully. IAN STRATTÓN, 20 Bradley Road, Warminster, Wiltshire BAI2 8BP.

Scottish victory

From Mr Alasdair Hunter

Sir. After the shenanigans before the start of the Five Nations Championship over England's participation, how correct has the decision to reinstate them been seen to be. My fellow Scots (and probably not a

few Welsh or Irish) would, I'm sure, agree that winning a tournament that did not include England would be a hollow victory indeed.

Yours faithfully. ALASDAIR HUNTER.

Chequers Lodge, Chequers Close, Grimston, King's Lynn PE32 IAT. April II.

EU patron saint

From Mr James Macdonald

Sir. The European Union may have its flag, but it lacks a patron saint. With the European Central Bank's inflexible control in mind, I propose the tyrant Procrustes. His chop or stretch methods of harmonisation

Yours faithfully, JAMES MACDONALD. 58 Clifford Avenue. Taunton, Somerset TA2 6DL

make him the ideal candidate.

Otherwise engaged

Sir. What freak of circumstance renders the inaptly named customer care service lines of service providers permanently engaged, or otherwise unobtainable, while their sales/marketing lines are always open and readily accessible?

Yours faithfully, P. D. DOHERTY, 5 Tancred Road, Luton, Bedfordshire LU2 7XA.

Civil legal aid

From the Director of Victim Support Sir, The Access to Justice Bill returns to the House of Commons on Wednesday, April 14. Yet some of its provisions seem to conflict with the Protection from Harassment Act - a previous piece of Labour government

erslation. The Act provides special protection for victims of racial harassment, stalking and domestic violence, often by way of an injunction gained through the civil courts. However, the new legislation priorioses civil legal aid only to victims of direct violence. Victims of harassment - a problem which has only recently been recognised - are left unprotected.

We hope the Government will look at this again during the time that the Bill remains in the Commons in order to ensure that civil legal aid is equally available for all victims requiring protection from harassment.

Yours faithfully. HELEN REEVES. Director, Victim Support, Cranmer House, 39 Brixton Road. SW9 6DZ. April 12,

From the Deputy Bailiff of Jersey

Last in the field

Sir, In your report on the Scottish elections (April 9) you described Culloden

as "the last real |my italics| battle fought on British soil". Last year 1 approached (with some

trepidation) an enormous Scots guardian at Culloden and spoke with some indignation, as a naove Jerseyman, of the Battle of Jersey, January 1781. He fixed me with a withering look: "This was the last pitched battle on British "Real?" "Pitched?" What then was

the Battle of Jersey, immortalised by Copley's great painting in the Tate Yours faithfully,

FRANCIS HAMON. The Bailiff's Chambers. Royal Court House, Jersey JEI 1DD.

Business letters, page 27

Letters should earry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 0171-782 5046. e-mail to: letters@the-times.co.uk

From Mr David Andrews Sir, I moved from being a compre-

Cost of music lessons

hensive school head of music to an

independent boarding school 22 years ago, partly because I saw where the local education authority music provision was leading (letter, April 5). At the time I was criticised for furthering musical elitism. Who is

encouraging elitism now? State school parents pay up to 50 per cent more for the same lessons as provided by the all-graduate staff at my own school.

The children in our new prep school will be able to start musical instruments on a one-to-one basis at below the state cost, and this is just the age to encourage learning - strings especially.

Many local authorities pay little more than lip service to their peripatetic music service. The more honest ones actually admit it. Yours faithfully.

DAVID ANDREWS. Harrogate Ladies' College, Clarence Drive. Harrogate HGI 2QG. music@hlc.org.uk April 5.

From Mr P. D. Doherty

April 13.

HOLTER-HOVEED - On 29th March, to Gillian (née Thorp) and Jens Helge, o son, Daniel Robert,

HORDERN - On 22nd March

in Glasgow, to lone and Mark, a daughter, Rebecca Margaret Rosemary, a

PERKINS - On 8th April 1999

PRITCHARD - On March 31st 1999. in Janice (uée Sansby) and William, o daughter, Chloe Louise, a sister for Emily.

SCOTT-KWIGHT - Oc April 12th in Lausanne, to Gemma (née de Lancey Waiters I and Ben, a doughter, Madeline E lizabeth.



COURT CIRCULAR

and the Rt Hon Paul East were sworn in

as Members of Her Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council.

Mr Alex Galloway was in attendance as Clerk of the Council. The Queen and The Duke of Edin-

The Queen and The Duke of Euriburgh gave a Dinner Parry at which The
Duke of York was present.

The following were invited: The
Leader of the Opposition and Mrs
Hague, His Excellency the Ambassador
of Lebanon. His Excellency the High
Commissioner for Barbardos and Mrs
Simmons, the Revered Dr. and Mrs.

Simmons, the Reverend Dr and Mrs Simmons, the Reverend Dr and Mrs Victor Dobbin, the Marquess of Harting-ton, the Earl and Countess Cairns, the Master of the Rolls and Lady Woolf. Sir John Eliot Gardiner, Mr and Mrs

Frederick Forsyth, the Dean of Windsor and Mrs Conner, Mr and Mrs Philip

Everett and Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs

Everett and Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs Paddy Tabor.

The Queen was represented by The Duke of Edinburgh, Admiral of the Fleet, at the Service of Thanksgiving for the Life of the Lord Lewin. Admiral of the Fleet, which was held of the Chapel of the Old Royal Noval College. Green-wich, today. The Duke of York artended. The Prince of Wales was represented to Admiral Sir Lock Slater.

by Admiral Sir Jock Slater. The Princess Royal was represented by Captain Annette Picton, RN.

Lieutenar Commander Sir Richard Buckley, RN. Prince Michael of Kent was represented by Commodore Muriel Hocking. RNR.

April 13: The Duke of York, Patron, this afternoon received Mr Mumford on relinquishing his post as Chairman of the Jubilee Sailing Trust, and Mr Dunning on assuming the post, at Buckingham Palace.

April 13: The Princess Royal, President,

April 13: The Princess Royal, President, The Princess Royal Trust for Carers, this morning attended the Annual Confer-ence of the Association of Inner Wheel clubs in Great Britain and Ireland. Sconish Exhibition and Conference Cen-tre. Clyde Auditorium, Glasgow, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Leu-tenant of the City of Glasgow (Mr Pat Lally, the Right Hon the Lord Provost). Her Royal Highness, Patron, World Cooks' Tour for Hunger, this afternoon

The Duke of Kent was represented by euterany Commander Sir Richard

attended a Lunch at the Glasgow Moat House Hotel, Congress Road, Glasgow. The Princess Royal, President, The Princess Royal Trust for Carers, later attended the East Ayrshire Carers Centre Information Day at 49 The Foregate and The Grand Hall, Kilmar-April L3: The Queen held a Council at 12.40pm.
There were present The Rt Hon. Margaret Beckett (President), the Rt. Hon Nick Brown (Minister of Agriculture. Fisheries and Food) and the Rt Hon Helen Liddell (Minister of State, Scottish The Rt Hon Lord Williams of Mostyn

Foregate and The Grand Hall, Kilmur-nock, East Ayrshire and was received by Colonel John Dalrympie-Hamilton (Vice Lord-Lieumenant of Ayrshire and Arran). Her Royal Highness, President, Save the Children Fund, subsequently attend-ed o Reception at the City Chambers, George Square, Glasgow. CLARENCE HOUSE

April 13: Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother, President of the Victoria Cross and George Cross Association, was present this afternoon at a Service of Remembrance and Re-Dedication at the Church of St Martin-in-the-Field.

Her Majesty was subsequently present at the President's Reception at Australia House.

Australia House. The Hon Mrs Rhodes and Sir Alastair Aird were in attendance.

Alastair Aird were in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
April 13: The Duke of Gloucester this morning called upon the Minister of Economy IMr Emil Wasaczi, the President of the Polish Business Roundtable (Mrs. Henryka. Bochniarz) and the President of the Polish Agency for Foreign Investment [Mr. Adam Pawlowicz]. Warsaw.

Potential High Potential August Marsaw.

His Royal Highness afterwards laid a Wreath at the Unschlagplatz Memorial, The Duke of Gloucester later ottend-

The Duke of Gloucester later ottended a lunch given by the British Polish Chamber of Commerce at the Bristol Hotel. Warsaw.

His Royal Highness this evening amended o Piano Recital and Reception at the City Hall, Poznan. Poland.

The Duchess of Gloucester today visited East Sussex and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant (Admiral Sir Lindsay Bryson).

Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant (Admurat Sir Lindsay Bryson).
Her Royal Highness visited the Downs School [for children with special needs). Eastbourne. East Sussex.
The Duchess of Gloucester, Patron SceAbility. afterwards opened Barchay House (Residential housing for visually impaired young adults), St Peter's Road, Seaford, East Sussex, as part of the Bi-Centenary celebrations of the Royal School for the Billor in the Billor.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE

April 13: Princess Alexandra this afternoon opened Chelsham House, the new
assessment unit for elderly residents of
Croydon, at the Bethlem Royal Hospital.

Monks Orchard Road, Beckenham. Her Royal Highness, Deputy Presi-dent of the 8 rinish Red Cross Society, afterwards visited the British Red Cross Shop at 129 High Street, Penge.

Today's royal engagements

The Oueen and the Duke of Edinburgh will give a reception at Windsor Castle for members of the Victoria Cross and George Cross

The Duke of Edinburgh, patron, will attend a dinner for Voluntary Service Overseas at Frogmore House, Windsor, at 7.30. The Princess Royal, President of the Patrons, Crime Concern, will visit the Route 53 Mentoring Plus Project. Brentford Avenue, Cheetham, Manchester, at 11.05 followed by a seminar at Manchester University's refectory building, Burlington Street. She will visit Manchester High School for Girls to mark its 125th anniversary year. Grangethorpe Road, Manchester, at 1.50; and will visit St Ann's St Paul's Church, Covent Garden,

Hospice, Little Hulton, Salford, at

The Duke of Keni, patron, Stroke Association, will attend the associa-

Family visit the royal web site at: www.royal.gov.uk

Foster-Brown A service of thanksgiving for Rear-Admiral Roy Foster-Brown,

CB, will be held at the Church of St Margaret, Lothbury, London, EC2, on Wednesday, May 5, at 11.00am. Leslie French

tion's centenary year International Scientific Conference at the Royal

Rear-Admiral Roy

College of Physicians, London, at For more details about the Royal

A service of thanksgiving for the life of Leslie French will be held at on Friday, April 23, at 11.00am. All

The Queen was represented by the Duke of Edinburgh, who read the lesson, at a service of celebration for the life and work of Admiral of the Fleet Lord Lewin, KG, held yesterday in the Old Royal Naval College Chapel Greenwich. The Prince of Wales was represented by Admiral Sir Jock Slater. The Duke of York attended. The Princess Royal was represented by Captain Anneue Picton, RN, the Duke of Kert by Lieutenani Commander Sir Richard Buckley, RN, and Prince

Michael of Kert by Commodore Muriel Hocking. The Hon Tim Lewin, son, bade welcome. The

Rev Dr Charles Stewart, Chaplain of the Fleet, officiated, assisted by the Rev Arthur Nunnerley, who said the Naval Prayer.

Mr Cosmo Roe, grandson, read John Masefield's Sea-Fever.

Vice-Admiral Sir Roderick MacDonald, Commmodore David Smith, RN, and Dr Roger Knight, Deputy Director of the National Maritime Museum, paid tribute.

Lord Lewin's Orders and Decorations were

Carried from the West Door to the Altar by Guardsman Hall, Senior Aircraftsman Judge, Marine I. Bagley and OM2 J. Collins.

After the service Bugler C. Brown and Corporal Bugler P. Gordon played Sunset.

The Secretary of State for Defence, the Chief of the Defence Staff, the First Sea Lord and Chief of the Defence Staff, the First Sea Lord and Chief of the Defence Staff, the First Sea Lord and Chief of the Defence Staff, the First Sea Lord and Chief of

Marines attended. The Colonel Commandant, Royal Marines was represented by Major-General Andrew Keeling and the Chief of the Air Staff by Air Chief Marshal

Sir Perer Squire. Baroness Thatcher, LG, OM, FRS, accompanied Baroness Thatcher, LG, OM, FRS, accompanied by Sir Denis Thatcher, attended.

The High Commissioner for Malta was represented by Mr Joseph Cole and the Falkland Islands Government by Miss S. Cameron. The Agent General for British Columbia was present.

The Lord-Lieutenant of Norfolk and the Leader of Hampshire County Council attended. Among

Others present were:

The Hon Ion and Mrs Lewin (son and daughter-in-law), Mr and the Hon Mrs Peter Roe (son-in-law and daughter), Mr Josh Lewin, Mr Peter Marsh, Muss Niki Mursh, Miss Jessea Roe and Miss Emily Roe (grandchildren) and other members of the lamily.

The Earl of Inchcape (Prince Warden, Shipwright's Company) with other members of the livery, Viscouni Caldente, Lord and Lady Armstrong of Ilminster, Lord Blaker, Field Marshal Lord Barnall, Lord Carrington, CH, Field Marshal Lord Carrington, CH, Field Marshal Lord Carrington, CH, Field Marshal Lord and Lady Inge. Lord Owen, CH, Field Marshal Lord and Lady Inge. Lord Owen, CH, Field Marshal Lord and Lady Vincent of Colestill, St. Frank and Lady Couper. Sr John and Lady Non. Sir Michael Palliser, the Hon Mrs Marsen, Sir Robin Giller, St. Christopher and Lady Lever.

Admiral of the Fleet Sir Edward and Lady Ashmore, Admiral of the Fleet Sir Benjamin Bathurst. Admiral of the Fleet Sir Peter



and Lady Hill-Norton. Admiral of the Fleet Sir Henry Leach.
Admiral of the Fleet Sir Julian Oswald, Admiral of the Fleet Sir
Michael Pollock. Fled Marshal Sir John Stanier. Marshal of the
RAF Sir Michael and Lady Bestman.
Admiral Sir Peter and Lady Abbott, Admiral Sir Jeremy and
Lady Black. Admiral Sir John and Lady Brigatche. Admiral Sir
Brian Brown (Friends of the Royal Naval Museum). Admiral Sir
John and Lady Bush, Admiral Sir Sienen and Lady Cassels.
Admiral Sir Desmond Cassell [Royal Naval Association) and
Lady Cassels. Sir James Eberle. Admiral Sir Feter Herber.
Admiral Sir Wichael Layard. Admiral Sir John and Lady
Cassels. Sir James Eberle. Admiral Sir John and Lady
Treacher, Admiral Sir Feter White. General Sir Patrick
Howard-Dohson, Air Chief Marshal Sir John Burrackough. Air
Chief Marshal Sir David Ewons Corler of the Batth, Air Chief
Marshal Sir Joseph Gilbert. Air Chief Marshal Sir Michael and
Lady Graydon. Air Chef Marshal Sir Douglas and Lady Lowe.
Vice-Admiral Sir Peter and Lady Austin. Vice-Admiral Sir Thomas and Lady Brad Lowe.
Vice-Admiral Sir Peter Berthon. Vice-Admiral Sir Jerem
Jelschkan. Vice-Admiral Sir Deve Admiral Sir John
Sir Peter Buchanan. Vice-Admiral Sir John Corbes.
Vice-Admiral Sir Tody Peter (Vice-Admiral Sir John Corbes.
Vice-Admiral Sir Peter Peter (Vice-Admiral Sir John Corbes.)
Vice-Admiral Sir Peter (Vice-Admiral Sir John Corbes.)
Vice-Admiral Sir Peter (Vice-Admiral Sir John Corbes.)
Vice-Admiral Sir Peter (Vice-Admiral Sir John Corbes.) Vice-Admiral Sir Toby Prere (RNVR Officers Association and Neval Club.)
Vice-Admiral the Hon Nicholes Hill-Norton (GEC Marconi Servicinic System). Vice-Admiral Sir Tod Horfick, Vice-Admiral Sir Gerard and Lady Mansfield, Vice-Admiral Sir John Lot, Vice-Admiral Sir Gerard and Lady Mansfield, Vice-Admiral Sir John and Lady Martin, Vice-Admiral Sir Iam and Lady McGeoch. Surgern Vice-Admiral Sir Godfrey Minen-Thorupson, Vice-Admiral Sir Michael and Lady Moore, Vice-Admiral Sir Christopher Morpan (Chamber of Shipping). Vice-Admiral Sir Cameron Stuby.

Rustly.
Vice-Admiral Sir Patrick and Lady Symons, Vice-Admiral Sir
Anthroy and Lady Troup, Vice-Admiral Sir George Vallings,
Vice-Admiral Sir Philip Wesson, Sungson Vice-Admiral Sir
James Wattherall, Vice-Admiral Sir Barry Wilson SSAFA Forces Helph, Lieucanni-General Sir Barry Wilson SSAFA Forces Helph, Lieucanni-General Sir Maurice Softsan

Admiral of the Fleet Lord Lewin, KG Forthcoming marriages Licutenant-General Sir John and Lady Richards. Liepernant-General Sir Robin Ross.

Rear Admiral Sir David and Lady Scott. Rear Admirals Sir John Carnier. Sir Paul Greening. Sir Morsan Morran-Giles and Sir Richard Trownledge. Major General Sir Jerem, Moore. and Sir Robert Charle, Sir Patrick Duffy, Sir Malcolm Edge, Sir Philip Goodhart.

Sir David Gordinant.

Edge, Sir Philip Goodhart.

Sir Donald Goodhart.

Sir David Hardy. Sir Ludovc Kennecky. Sir Rbbin and Lady. Sir Rhan McCreath. Sir Hayden Phillips. Sir Mdles Wingate. Sir Kerry and Lady. Sir Hayden Phillips. Sir Mdles Wingate. Sir Kerry and Lady. Sir Johnston. Sir Moray Sawart. Sir Charles Tidbury. Sir Antus Stating chairman. Circinvich Foundation for the Old Royal Naval College; with Mr Francis Carrowarth directort: Sir Arthur Weller.

Association, Mr William Cockeroft in Chief Commissioner of Empland, Scounts,
Representatives of: Nato, National Historic Strips CommisExpresentatives of: Nato, National Historic Strips CommisEx, King George: Fund for Sallors, US (Ports) Righty Football
Astociation, Susses RNVR and RNR Officers Association, Cabible Hotilla Association, RN Association, Army Quarterly and
Defence Journal, The D Group, Merchann Navy Association, Sallory, The Course, Society for Nanoteal Research,
The White Ensign Association, Imperial War Museum,
Maritime Books, Lleyds TSB Group, Flends of War
Memorials, Tate Gallery, the Judd School, Tonbridge, Old
Juddian Society, Od Justian Association, Navel Historical
Society, Gallipoli Association, Navel Historical
Branch, RN Resuce The Service Veterans, Skinners' Company,
Brinish Museum, Massier Mariners Association, Company of
Stationers and Newspaper Makers,
The Shipwrecked Mariners Society, Army and Navy, Clob,
HMS Ganger Association, HMS Ganger Museum, Shodey,
Museums and Galleries Commission, Coorge Cross Island
Association, Family Heart Association, Collers' Pensions
Society, Southampton Master Mariners Cub. Association of
Royal Yachtsonen, Shipwrecked Historical Society, Royal
Benevolent Society, Camenove Fund Management, Pangbourne
College.

College.

The Old Panghournian Society, Russian Convoy Club, Parliamentary Maritime Group, Portsmouth University, Portsmouth Grammar School, Neptune Court, Joan Spencer School of Music, Royal Caradian Navy, College of Arms, Maritime Trust, Merchant Navy, Trinity House Service.

Colleagues who served with Lord Lewin on HM Ships Warrior, Hermes, Ashani, Brighton, Vinducive, Britannia, Tenby, Emellent, Vigilant, Chegners, Raleigh, Urchir, Blake, Hermitone, Kent, Achilles and Chrysonthemanwith many other

School news

piano recital at 8pm on June 10.
Old Johnian Sunday is on June 27
when the preacher at the 10.30
Eucharist will be the Right Rev

Edward Darling, Bishop of Limer-ick and Killatoe; the School Con-

lieu of flowers donation to the Humane Society

would be appreciated.
Funeral strangements
entrusted to the
Breckenridge-Ashcroft
Funeral Home, Owen

Sound 001 518 376 2326.

Hill - Richard Bucknell died at home surrounded by his family on April 12th aged 84. Loving and dearly loved father of Serens, Julian and Serah. Grandfather of Archie, Gabl and Arthur. A Service of Thanksgiving will take place in early May.

HRI - On April 6th aged 66, Julian Hill of Crawley Down, West Sussex. Funeral of All Saints Church, Crawley Down on Friday 16th April at 2 pm.

MOGG - Peacafully on
Monday 12th April after a
short illness Str John
Nicholson, beloved
husband of the late
Elisabeth (Kino), much
loved father of Malcolm
and Sue and dearly loved
grandfather. Funeral and
Thanksgiving Service ot St
John the Baptist,
Shedfield at 12 noon on
Treacher 20th April

Tuesday 20th April.
Family flowers only
please. Purther details

Leeds Grammar School

Summer term commenced on April 12, being the last term before retirement for the Headmaster, Bryan Collins and for the Chaplain, the Rev Mike Hanson, who is taking early retirement. Simon Peters continues as Head of School: Alex Wood is Captain of Cricket. The Founders' Day Service will be held in Leeds Parish Church on Sunday, May 9. The Past v Present matches will be held at the School on Saturday, July 3. Old Leos will be welcome on both occasions, please contact the Headmaster's secretary for further de-

Sf Dunstan's College Summer Term starts today at St Dunstan's College and will end on July 9. The Service of Commemoration of Founders and Benefactors will be held at Southwark Cathewill be held at Southwark Cathedral on May 28 at llam, the preacher being Canon Lawrence Gunner. Members of the College will participate in the Beating of the Bounds of All Hallows by the Tower with St Dunstan's in the East and the Ascension Day Festival Evensong on May 13. Open Day and Old Dunstonian

The Victoria Cross and George Cross details may be obtained from the Association Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother

cetais may be obtained from the College. Junior School Prizegiving will be on July 7 and the Lower School Play on Wednesday. May 19, and Thursday, May 20, Captain of Cricket is P.J. Brightman, and J.D. Apprairs is Captain of attended a service of remembrance and rededication for the Victoria Cross and George Cross Associa-tion held yesterday at St Martin-inand L.D. Antonio is Captain of the Fields.
The Rev Nicholas Holtam officiat-Sf John's School, Leatherhead The Summer Term begins today at

ed, assisted by the Ven Simon Golding, Archdeacon of the Royal Navy, and Father David Hewitt, RAF, Colonel Stuart Archer, GC, Chairman of the VC and GC Association, read the lesson and Colonel A.A. Porteous, VC, said the St John's School, Leatherhead, Alex Forsdike is School Captain, Group Captain N. Gammon will inspect the Combined Cadet Force on Thursday, May 13. The Junior Act of Remembrance. The Bishop of London gave an address. The Lord-Lieutenant of Play Is Sean O'Casey's Juno and the Paycock and is on May 26, 27 and 28 and on June 30 and July 2 Greater London was represented by Major-General Peter Istead, The the ODS will perform Fallen
Angels by Noel Coward. The
Bishop of Dorking will perform a
service of Baptism and Confirma-

Major-General Peter Istead, The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of Westminster attended.

The Chief of the Defence Staff was represented by Air Marshal Sir John Day, the Chief of the General Staff by Major-General A.W. Lyons, the Chief of the Naval Staff and First Sea Lord by Commodore P. Greenish and the Chief of the Air Staff by Air Vice-Marshal K.D. Filbey. tion on Sunday, April 25, and Choral Evensong is at 6.30pm on May 18. Duk Kyu Kim will give a Filbey.

Reception

St Mary's College, Durham Emeritus Professor Sir Arnold Wolfendale, FRS, was the host at 8 cert is at 7.30pm that evening. Prize giving is on July 3 when the Guest of Honour will be Field Marshal cricket week starts with the game against the MCC on July 5. The Catford Arts Festival takes place at the College from July 4 to 6; further Co

Dinners

man, also spoke,

Institute of Physics congress dinner held last night at

BIRTHS: Ortellus, cartographer of the first atlas, Antwerp, 1527; Barbara Wootton, Baroness Woot-

writer, Paris, 1986.

The typhus vaccine was discovered by Dr Harry Plotz in New York.

The Highway Code was issued,

Anniversaries

ton of Abinger, sociologist, Cambridge, 1897; François Duvalier, President of Haiti 1957-71, Port-au-

London Mayors' Association Lord imbert, Lord-Lieutenant for Greater London, was the guest of honour at a dinner of the London Mayors' Association held last night in Westminster City Hall. The Lord Mayor of Westminster. chairman, was the host and Councillor Robert Davis, executive chair-

Professor Sir Gareth Roberts, FRS, President of the Institute of Physcs, was in the chair at the annual Manchester United Football Club.

Prince, 1907. DEATHS: Richard Neville, (The Kingmaker), Earl of Warwick and Earl of Salisbury, killed, Battle of Barnet, 1471; George Frederic Han-del, composer, London, 1759; Ernest Bevin, trade unionist, Foreign Secretary 1945-51. London, 1951: F.R. Leavis, literary critic, Cambridge, 1978; Simone de Beauvoir,

Annabel, daughter of Mr and Mrs Robin Forestier-Walker, Aldeburgh, Suffolk Mr A.M.W. Moffat and Miss C.L. Blackweil

Dr P.E. Heard

Bouziotas.

Mr J.J. Mitchell

and Miss A. Bouziotas

The marriage will take place next

month in Bath, between Peter Edyvean Heard and AnnaMaria

and Miss A.D. Forestier-Walker

The engagement is announced between John, son of the late Mr

Johnny Francis Mitchell and of

Mrs Mitchell, of Cambridge, and

The engagement is announced between Andrew Maclean William

Moffat and Charlotte Louise Blackwell, both of Fulham, London.

The engagement is announced between Christopher John, elder

Mr CJ. Moss, QC.

Surrey.

Mr T.H. Pavne

and Miss LA. O'Dwyer

and Miss M.J. Higgins

Dr R.A. Slack and Dr N.J. Maxwell

and Miss LE Legard The engagement is announced between Pietro, son of Signor and Signora Calabretta, of Rome, Italy, and Louise, daughter of Sir Charles Legard, Bt. of Scampsion. Yorkshire, and Mrs Hibbert-Foy. of Charleot, Yorkshire.

The engagement is announced between Nicholas, son of Mr and

Mrs Peter Brook, of Dorking Surrey, and Mary, daughter of Mr and Mrs Robin Annan, of Scalby,

Mr P.A. Dodds

Dr N.E. Brook and Dr M.H. Annan

North Yorkshire.

Signor P. Calabretta

and Miss G.C.G. Ross The engagement is announced between Philip Anthony, youngest son of Mr and Mrs Denis Dodds. of Bickley, Kent, and Geraldine Catherine Ghislaine, only daughter of Lieutenant Colonet and Mrs Christopher Ross, of Quidhampton. Salisbury, Wilishire.

and Miss S. Williams

The engagement is announced between Patrick, younger son of the late Major Paddy Ford and of Mrs Cynthia Ford, of Alphamstone. Suffolk, and Sue, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Colin Williams, of Si Austell, Cornwall.

Mr R.H.V. Harrison

and Miss H.F. Wilmshurst The engagement is announced between Robert, elder son of Mr and Mrs Martin Harrison, of Snape, Suffolk, and Helen, daughter of Mr and Mrs Peter Wilmshurst. of Longniddry. East Lothian.

Mr C.J. Jacoby and Miss T.M.B. de Salis The engagement is announced between Charles, son of Mr Martin Jacoby, of San Pablo de Buceite, Spain, and of Mrs Christopher Drewe, of Drewsteignton, Devon. and Theresa, daughter of Count and Countess Charles de Salis.

Mr D.P. Jenkins and Miss K.M. Cook

The engagement is announced between David, son of Mr William R. Jenkins and the late Mrs Ann Jenkins, of Melbourne, Australia, and Karen, daughter of Captain and Mrs Alasdair Cook, of Strathyre. Perthshire.

Dr F.G. MacFarlane and Miss LT, Griffin

The engagement is announced between Fraser, youngest son of Dr and Mrs William MacFarlane, of Newcastle upon Tyne, and Lucy, daughter of Mr and Mrs Keith Griffin, of Newcastle under Lyme.

Mr M.L. McIlvenna and Miss H.E. Stephens

The engagement is announced between Luke, son of Mr and Mrs Michael McIlvenna. of Forest Hill. Oxford, and Hannah Elizabeth. younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Mark Stephens, of Much Hadham, Hertfordshire.

Birthdays today

DITHIUAYS 10UAY
Sir Patrick Brown, former civil servani, 59;
Mr Roy Cameron, former Chief Constable,
Dumfries and Galloway, 52, the Earl of
Chichester, 55; Miss Julie Christie, accress,
59; Vice-Admiral Sir Geoffrey Dalton, 68;
Miss Susan Davies, photographer, 66; Sir
John Gielgod, OM, CH, actor, 95; Mr
Gerry Gillman, trade unionist, 72; Mr Vor
Goest, baller writer, 79; Mr CJ JM, Haines,
former chief executive, Jockey Club, 60;
Miss Eddiven Harrby, soprano, 50; Lord
Hastings, 87, the Right Rey Dr David Hastings, 87, the Right Rev Dr David Hope, Archeishop of York, 99, Mr Paddy Hopkirk, former rally driver, 66, Mr Julian Lloyd Wetber, cellist, 48; Miss LE,M.

Mackie, former Headmistress, Ulty of London School for Cirls, 73: Colonel Sir Robert Macrae, former Lord-Lieutenani of Orkney, 84; Baroness Masham of Ilou, 64. Mr P.G.A. Ramsay, former Controller, BBC Scotland, 73; Dr J.M. Roberts, former Warden, Merton College, Oxford, 71: the Ven R.H. Roberts, former Chaplain of the Fieel, 68: Mr David Skipper, former Headmaster, Merchant Taylors' School, 68: Mr. Roberts, Group, 74: Ramoness

BMDS: 0171 680 6880 PRIVATE: 0171 481 4000

BIRTHS

PERSONAL COLUMN

The LORD is our God, and we are his people, the sheep he takes care of in his own pasture. Listen to God's voice today! Psalm 957 (CEV).

BIRTHS BEAN - To Deborah Ioée Feaver) and Adrian. Wo are pleased to announce the birth of Emily Jane on 7th April 1998. A welcome arrival.

BOLS - On April 6th, to Kato (née Barnard) and Pete, a son, Frederick (Freddie) Joseph Peter, o brother for Samuel, Jessica and Harriot.

BRACKSTONE - On 5th April 1999, a sister to Alexander, a daughter to Richard and Jenny (née Crittenden), Annabel Rose, 8lbs 1oz. COLEMAN - On April 8th of The Portland Hospital, Marina (oée Binos) and

CORMISH - On April 7th at The Portland Hospital, to Corrins and Mathew, a splendid baby boy, Samus Canada

FORDHAM - On April 8th, to Philippa 10ée Podmoral and Simon, a son, Guy Michael William, a brother for Tamsin and Beatrice.

SENSON - On April 12th

DEATHS

SHREE - On April 8th of The Portland Hospital, to Lesley-Ann (née Jones) and Gerard, a daughter, Bridie Rose Joy, a sister for Mis and Henry. SWRE - On April 7th at The Portland Hospital, to Flona mée Dons til and Philip, a daughter, Serena Chiara Dolia.

7th April at UCH, London, a cheriahed daughter to Adam and Linda. WESTON - On April 3rd 1999 in Rachel losé Crabtres) and Michael, o son, Thomas Athol, a brothor for Oliver and Kate.

THOMPSON - Phoenix.

MHITTICASE/SUN - On 13th April, in Hong Kong, to Rod and Kate, a son, Oliver John, a brother for Abigsil.

ARNATT - Robert (Bob) of Ditchling, aged 92, peacefully on 9th April Much loved husband of Jean and beloved brother of Joyce, Marion and John, Foneral, 21st April ot 11.30am, Surrey and Sussex Crematorium. Balcombe Road, Crawley. Family flowers. Donations, if desired, to Salvation Army, cy R.A. Brooks & Son, 35 Wivelsfield Road, Haywards Heath, RH16 4EN. Tel 01444-454391 for further details.

DEATHS

BAKER - On 10th April 1999, David John, remembered with love by his sons Christopher and Adrian, his mother Joan Biddell and all his family. Funeral Mass at 1 lam on Tuesday 20th April ot St Etheldreds's Church, Ely Place, London ECL Family flowers only. Donations in his memory to St Christopher's Hospice c/o A France & Soc: tal 0171 405 4901.

Sensow - On April 12th aged 84 years, John Cuthbert of Belsay, Northumberland, Loving and very much inved husband of Doreen for 58 years. Private funeral. Thanksgiving Service at St Andrew's Church, Bolam on Thursday April 23nd at 1 on Thursday April 22nd at 12 noon. No flowers. Donations, if wished, 10 St Andrew's Church, c/o R. Carmichael, Townfoot, Belsay, NE20 ODX.

peacefully of home oo April 11th 1999 after a short illness. Beloved

April 11th 1899 after a short illness. Beloved friend and husband of Sarah and dearly loved fother of Christopher, Lucinda and Caroline and grandps of Timothy. Private cremation followed by a service of Thanksgiving at St Michael and Ali Angels, Uffington on Tuesday 20th April at 12 noon. No flowers. Donations for Lymphoma Research to Leukaemia Research to Leukaemia Research Stroet, Stamford, George's Street, Stamford, Lines PES 2BJ.

ARRY - Phyllis. Passed away 31st March 1999 aged 84 years. Funeral Service to take place on Thursday 15th April 1999 at Chichester Cremstorium Chichester Crematorium at 3.30 pm. Family flowers only please but donations if desired to N.S.P.C.C. may be sent c/o Reynolds Funeral Service, 31, High Street, Bognor Regis, West Sussex PO21 1RR. Tel: 01243 864745.

Sussex PÖ21 1RR. Tel:
01243 864745.
CHALK - Joan née Waterfield
26th October 1923 - 9th
April 1999. Beloved Wife,
Mother and Grandmother.
Hospitalised and
recovering from a stroke,
was struck by another oo
Friday morning 9th April
and died pescafully the
same evening. A Service of
Thanksgiving will be beld
oo Wednesday 31st April
3 pm at Bit Mary the Virgin
Church Westerham,
followed by a cremation
service of Tunbridge Weils
at 4 pm. Family Gowers
only. Donations to Ward
9 Kent & Sussex Hospital
for equipment - McMillian
Nurses and Marie Curie.
COMEM - Ena May on 13th
April quietly in her sleep
after a short illness with
devoted husband Joe as
always by her side. Sadly
missed by two children,
five grandchildren and 3
grest-grandchildren.
Cremation at Golders
Green Crematorium 10.45
on 15th April.

GEL - Diana. On 10th April suddenly at home. Adored wife of the late Stephen, wife of the late Stephen, much loved mother of John and Jane, mother-in-law of Janet and Alan and grandmother of Rupert and Charlotte. Cremation private, family flowers only. Donations, if desired, to Imperial Cancer Research Fund c/o Jon. Steel & Seo I.td., Chesil House, 6 Chesil Street, Winchester. Service of Thanksgiving at 2.30 pm on Mouday 19th April at St Lawrence Church, Alton.

GOLDSON - On April 11th (peacefully) of Middleton St-George, Co. Durham, Edward Browne (Teddy) aged 85 years. Beloved husband of Jill, dearly loved father of Richard and Hilary, also a dear brother to Marjorle and the late Charles and Dian brother to Marjorle and the late Charles and Diana Funeral Tuesday April 20th. Will friends please meet for service and committal 1 pm at St Laurence's Church, Middleton-St-George, prior to cremation. Family flowers only please. Donstions if so desired to RNL1 c/o Mr J. Dodds, 3 Tees Grange Avenus, Darlington DL3 SBL.

GRAHAM - John on 13th April 1999 aged 65 years. Beloved husband of Janet and dearly loved father of Amenda, the late Glies, Jamie and Gibson. Jamie and Gibson.
Thanksgiving Servica at 8t
Margaret's Church, West
Hoethly, West Sussex at 12
noon on Monday 19th
April 1999. No flowers but
donations to the Renal
Service Fund, Royal
Sussex County Hospital,
Brighton (/o Cooper &
Son, 11 New Town,
Uckfleid TN22 5DL, East
Sassex tel: 01825 783783.

To place death notices, acknowledgements or notices please call 0171 680 6880

UNY- Rebecca (née Ginsborg) on 9th April 1999 aged 76, greatly missed by her husband David, her children Mark and Harriet, her brother Bernard, all her family and her many friends. GREEN - Charles Patrick.

RAF (retired) D.S.O.,
D.F.C. was born in
Pietermaritzburg, South
Africa in 1914. He died
peacefully in Owen Sound,
Canada on Saturday April
10th, 1999 after a long and
eventful life in England,
South Africa, and Canada,
Paddy attended Harrow
and Cambridge and was a
member of the Bobaleigh
team for England in the
1936 Olympic game. He
served with the RAF in
WWIL in 1947 he married
Roth Webster of Toronto
and settled in South
Africa. After a 26 year
career with Anglo
American Corporation
Paddy emigrated to
Canada in 1977. Paddy is
predeceased by his wifo
Ruth (1981) and Grandson
Claude (1974). Paddy will
be missed by his children
Carol, Chris and Anne and
by his grandchildren
Carol, Chris and Anne and
by his der and anne and
by his der anne and
by his christon
construction of the constructi GREEN - Charles Patrick

LOVEDAY - Robert suddenly on April 11th aged 88 years. Former Schoolmaster at Eccleshield and Raynes Park. Funeral Service at St Andrew's Church, Bradenham, Norfolk on Tuesday April 20th at 3pm. Enquiries to W.C. Littleproud & Son Funeral Directors, tel: (01760) 440268.

MALLENDER - On 12th April peacefully in Minehead Bospital, William John aged 85 years. Husband of the iato Margaret Mary (Meg). The funeral service takes place on Wednesday 21st April at 12.30 pm at Tumton Denno

MURRAY - Shells Mary, widow of Neil, on Sunday April 11th 1999 in hospital in Winchester, aged 81 years: loving mother of Gillian, Ian, Alison and Patricia, and much loved grandmother. Funeral in Romeny Abbey of 12 noon on Tuesday April 20th. Family flowers. Donations in her memory to the Kosovo Apoeal. Enquiries

To place death notices,

McVITIE - Morna (née
Wilson), peacafully in
Putney on 9th April, aged
92. Much loved widow of
Bill and mether of Anna,
Nancy and the lato
Richard, Funeral on
Tuesday 20th April at
1.30pm at Putney Vale
Crematorium, Family
flowers enly. Enguiries to
Aahton Funeral Services,
OIB1 788 1790.

In her memory to the Kosovo Appeal. Enquiries to A.H. Chester, 122 The Hundred, Romsey, Hampshire, SOS1 8BY, (01794; 513393.

acknowledgements or notices please call 0171 680 6880

RENWICK - Dorothy Joyce aged 84 years, formerly Headmistress of Kidderminster High School died peacefully on April 7th 1999. Funeral Monday April 19th at St Philip and 81 James Church, Cheltenham ot 11am. Cheques for memorial fund to "Kidderminster High School for Girls OGA", 80 Holmeroft Road, Kidderminster DY10 3AG. Taunton Deano Crematorium. Further enquiries Murrell and Dewar (01643) 702086.

> OSLEY DECON - John (Rob) ROBLEY DOCON - John (Rob)
> C.Eng.; B.Eng.
> F.LMech.E.; F.I.M.;
> F.R.S.A. busband of Helen.
> father of Bruce, Joanne
> and Miles, grandfather of
> Harry and Georgina. Born
> 27th August 1925; died
> peacafully in hospital on
> 11th April 1999 after o
> short illness resolutely
> fought. Thanksgiving short illness resolutely fought. Thanksgiving service in Worcester Cathedral at 2 pm on Cathedral at 2 pm on Tuesday 20th April. Family flowers only; donations if wished, via E. Hill & Son, Funeral Director, Pershore, Worcestershire WR10 1HZ, to Worcester Cathedral Appeal Trust or in the Macmillan Fund.

SCHRIRE - Sylvie on 12th April in Cape Town. Much loved and will be greatly missed by her daughters Sharon Godfrey and Cail Fleech, 2018-in-law David and Michael and grandchildren Mark, Sarah, Dine and Daniel.

PATTERSON - Dr. Henry Rea oo April 10th peacefully in Glenfield Hospital. Dearly leved and leving husband of Beryl, much leved father of Clare, Sarah and Graham and adored grandfather of Jamie, Simon, Alex, Chris, Tom and Catherine. A dedicated GP already very sadly missed. Funeral Service at All Saints Church, Thirreastoo on Wednesday April 21st at 12.30 pm. Family flowers only please but donations in memory of Henry if desired in R.N.L.I. c/o Ginns and Gutteridge, S1 Vaughan Way, Leicester LE14NR, teir (0116) 2518117.

SELVARALAH Ponnampalam (1928-1999)
passed away peacefully
and resched the feet of the
Lord on 17th March 1999
at Whilnfield, Bangalore,
India. He was cremated at
Prasanth Nilayam,
Puttarpathy, India, on the
banks of the River
Chitiravathl. Beloved
hushand of Gnanl, much
inved inther of Malkachi. numanc of Chant, much loved inther of Malkaothi, Presthilal, Ganesh, Ranjan, Sarasavi, Luxmi and Shanthi and very dear grandfather of Joseph, Charles and Thomas, An extraordingny and

Charles and Thomas, An extraordinary and wonderful man, he will be greatly missed by all his family and friends. Memorial service 8th May 1999, Kingsway College, Sidmouth Btreet, London, contact Dr J Mohan (0181 402 7079) or Dr Ganeshanathan (01923 236419. SHAPRA - Norma, beloved wife of John, died peacefully last Saturday 10th April. Funeral will take place of Golders Green Crematorium, Hoop Lane, Londoo NW11 ot 3.30pm, Thursday 15th April. All that knew and loved her welcome. No flowers, instead donations welcome to North Londoo Homice.

SCOPES - Jon Wilfred (Prof)
born 20th November 1930,
died 10th April 1999. Much
loved and missed by
Evelyn, Heather and
Jennifer and so many.
Funeral to be held on
Frida y 23rd April ot 2.00
pm at 5t Mary's Parish
Church, Hampton,
followed by private
cremation. Family flowers
only, donations to Joo

cremation. Family Howers only, donations to Joo Scopes Neonatal Unit c/o G.S. Keates, 49 High Street, Hampton Hill, Middx, TW12 1NH.

SELVARAJAH -

STURROCK - Janet
Macrobin, peacefully at
home, surrounded by her
loving family, on Friday
Sth April, oged 83. Privain
family service at Holy
Trinity, Toigh on Thursday
15th April, followed by
hurial at 3 pm of Market
Overton Parish Church,
for family and friends.
Flowers, or donations for
Macmillan Cancer Relief,
may be sent c/o Fords F/D,
8 Church Street, Oakham
(01572-722654). Memorial
service in May, in he service in May, in be

THOMAS - Dr Ian Brace FRCGP, died aged 72, peacefully ot home in Cheltenham, on 9th April Cheltenhem, on 9th April 1999, after a long illness bravely borne. The dearly loved and loving husbaod of Ann, the much loved and loving father of David, Paol and Jane and a prood grandfather. Sadly missed by them and his son- and daughters-in-law. by them and his son- and daughters-in-law. Donations in lieu of flowers for Mario Curio and all anguirles may be sent to Selim Smith & Co., 74 Prestbury Roed, Cheltenham, GI.52 2DJ. Tel 01242 525383.

TJOLLE - Anthia Mary
Florence "Chan in
everybody". Always
beautiful. Our Mum.
Funeral Service will be
held of St Thomas a
Beckett Church.
Widcombe, Beth, Friday
18th April at 11 am.
Flowers wolcomed,
especially wild flowers,
may be sent in Cooperative Funeral
Services, Putteney Road,
Bath BA2 4HP.

TOMLINSON - Marjorie Clara inée Roodhousei from Bilston of Leicester and Uppingham, wife of the iats Bill, mother of Peter, Nicholas, Mary-Jane and Robert, grandmother of Jousthon. Sarah, Marc and Stephen. Died 10th April 1999 aged 92 years. R.I.P. The funeral service will be held at St Joseph's R.C.. Oakham oo Tuesday April 20th of 10am followed by interment at Giroes Cemetery. Enquiries please to E. M. Onrman Funeral Director, Uppingham. Tol on 01572

TUOHY - On April 11th 1999
Frank Tuohy, writer, of a heart ottack in Sheptoo Mallat Hospital Funeral at St Mary the Virgin, Yarlington oo Monday April 19th ot 12.45 pm. Family Rowers only, donations if desired for The Royal Literary Fund C/o Harold F. Miles, F. D. South Cadbury, BA22 7ES. 1019631 440367. Memorial Gathering in Londoo to be announced later.

WALKER - Peacefully on Low Sunday Edward. Vicar of Great Amwall for 48 years. Much loved. Puneral on Tuesday 20th April at Great Amwell Church at 2.30 pm. Family Inware only

son of Joy Cohen, of Bath, and the late Jack Moss, and Lisa Annette. eldest daughter of Barry and Philomena O'Dwyer, of Woking,

The engagement is announced between Miranda Jane. only daughter of Mr and Mrs John Higgins, of Berkhamsted, Hertford-shire, and Thomas Henry, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Keith Payne, of Knowle, West Midlands. The engagement is announced between Alex, second son of Mr and Mrs Christopher Slack, of

Bourne End, Buckinghamshire and Nicola, daughter of Wing Commander and Mrs Anthony Maxwell, of Alderney, Channel Mr A.H. Timms and Senorita P. Martin-Barbadillo The engagement is announced between Andrew, younger son of Mr and Mrs Henry Timms, of Walton-on-Trent, Derbyshire, and

Patricia, elder daughter of Los Vizcondes de Casa González, of Jerez de la Frontera, Spain. Mr P.E. Williams-Jolliffe and Miss A.L. Thirtle

The engagement is announced between Peter, son of Mr and Mrs E.R. Talbot, of Apethorpe, Northamp-tonshire, and Allison, daughter of Mr and Mrs M. Pettitt, of Ramsey, Cambridgeshire. Marriage Mr W.A.M.O. Jodrell

and Miss N. d'Agapeyeff

The marriage took place on Satur-day at St Eadburgha's Church, Broadway, of Mr William Jodrell to Miss Natasha d'Agapeyeff. Canon Peter Burch officiated. The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Miss Amanda Leong. Mr Alastair Vaux was best man.

A reception was held at the home of the bride and the honeymoon is being spent in Mauritius.

Mr Rod Steiger, actor, 74 Baroness Symons of Vernham Dean, trade unionist, 48; Sir Peter Thompson, former president, NFC, 7t: Mr George Walker, former chief executive. Brent Walker Group, 70; Barton-ess Warnock, 75; Mr Paul Wilkinson, chairman, Ranks Hovis McDougall, 54.

TRADE; 0171 481 1982 FAX: 0171 481 9313

WATSON - Frank Sidney, of Oxford, died in Toron Canada, 23rd March, following a cancer operation. Frank leaves a widespread loving family and circle of friends. -

(Molilat nee Maldon on Friday April 9th peacefully of Upper Mead Nursing Home, Henfield, in her 91st year. Widow of Harold Alexander Whishow. Much loved stater, aunt, great-aunt. Funeral Service at Findon Crematorium, Worthing on Wednesday April 21st at 3pm. No flowers by her request. Ecquiries to Radmall Funeral Services tel: 1012731 494577.

MESHAW – ida Mery (Molilai née Maldon on

IN MEMORIAM -PRIVATE

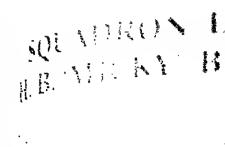
BANTOCK - Ted April 14th 1986. To live in hearts we leave behind is oot to die'. Agnes. KIMITSUKA - Yoil. 24th March 1979 - 14th April March 1932 - 14th April 1992. Remembered with love by many friends for her life of art, friendship and great courage. WANTED BOOK COATS, fox coats perchased Book pulce paid. Please send anguires & details to box 5737

ECKET W/CHP Regby World Cup-ing V Sweden Ascor All Grand Prix. Lion Elag, Wimbledon Deba, Major sporting swents, thentre 0171 394 8283 CCs CORPORATE HOSPITALITY

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FOOTBALL, ASCOT
CRICKET, ETC
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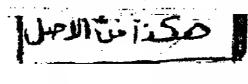
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LORD STOTT

Lord Stott, Lord Advocate, 1964-67, and Senator of the College of Justice in Scotland, 1967-84, died on April 12 aged 89. He was born oo December 22, 1909.

ord Stott was a man of independent mind who was not afraid to take on the legal establishment. His diaries, published intermittently after his retirement, were an oddly entertaining mixture of the profound and the banal, of political reflection and mere gossip. They were far from flattering about many of his judicial colleagues, but cast as much light on his own character. George Gordon Stott was the youngest

son of the Rev Dr G. Gordon Stott, minister of Cramond, near Edinburgh. He was educated at Cramond School, Edinburgh Academy and Edinburgh University, where he was admitted to the Faculty of Advocates in 1936.

He became active in Labour poliocs. and as a conscientious objector when war broke out he was sent to work in agriculture. After his first posting, to a did so. He had the temerity to appeal

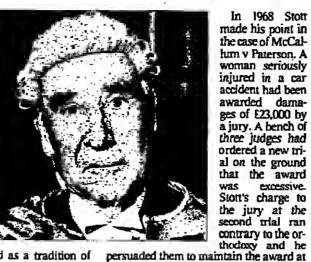
farm in Fife, he was appointed a milk recorder and toured the country, rising with the lark to log the yields.

He appeared free of charge before the tribunals on behalf of many other conscientious objectors and from 1939 to 1944 edited the Edinburgh Clarion, the journal of Edinburgh West Labour Party. which appeared with the subtitle "For socialism and peace". The sincerity of his pacifism was generally acknowledged and proved no hindrance to his career. He was a member of the Monopolies Commission. 1949-56, and took silk in 1950.

He soon acquired a certain celebrity in legal circles for his courage in confronting Lord Clyde, who had become Lord President in 1954 and was habitually rude and imperious. Ston's diary described him as "the worst judge that one could imagine" and deplored his habit of committing his "extempore" judgments to writing in advance and "concussing" his fellow judges into agreeing with him. Stott was scornful of those who passively against many of Lord Clyde's judgments to the House of Lords, and was consistently successful.

When he himself became a judge in 1967, he continued to oppose Clyde's diktats, particularly over civil damages. In the Scottish courts these had been held far below the level in England. Some senior judges took a perverse pride

in what they regarded as a tradition of honest poverty. Lord Stott perceived that not only was this inequitable, but it would ultimately bring the law of Scotland into disrepute by driving people to seek redress in the other jurisdiction.



£22,000. This was again set aside by the First Division, and the pursuer eventually settled out of court for £10,000, a result Stott described as "most unfortunate". He did not abandon his campaign, and

In 1968 Stott

when a similar case came before him the following year he was able to award a large sum of damages. Scottish damages now more or less conform to English standards.

In 1964 Stott had been appointed Lord Advocate in the Wilson Government. He did not find the duties of Scotland's chief law officer particularly onerous, but derived sacrical pleasure from the foibles of the senior Labour politicians he encountered. Patrick Gordon Walker "waffled away as usual, assuring us with obvious truth that he had a completely open mind". He became disillusioned by Wilson's drift away from socialism and support for the Americans in Vietnam. and when a vacancy arose on the Bench he brought his brief career in politics to a close. But then in 1972 he found himself on In a divorce case, Stott ruled against

William Cordiner, a well-known criminal with a string of convictions. Cordiner had conducted his own case, and when the judgment went against him began to

shout abusive threats at the judge and the entire court. Stott had him taken below in handcuffs and then sentenced him to three years' imprisonment for contempt, a decision denounced by Bernard Levin in this newspaper as "savage". Cordiner spent almost five months in prison before eventually being released on appeal.

After Stott's retirement in 1984, his diaries began to appear. Lord Advocate's Diary (1992) and Judge's Diary (1995) both reveal a relish for the culture of the vernacular (he had the occasional habit, in court, of breaking into broad Scots). A cerain parsimoniousness - on one occasion he records climbing a fence rather than paying for entry to a local gymkhana - contrasts with his acts of spontaneous generosity. He once sent a cheque for £500 out of his own pocket, to a woman who had lost her arm in a spin-dryer. He had represented her, but she had not, he felt, been given justice.

He is survived by his wife Nancy. whom he married in 1947, and by their son and one daughter.

SQUADRON LEADER H. B. 'MICKY' BELL-SYER

Squadron Leader H. B. "Micky" Bell-Syer, AFC, fighter and test pilot. died on March 12 aged 80. He was born oo December 9, 1918.

BLINDED and badly burnt when his Hurricane was shot down over France in May 1940. Micky Bell-Syer made a remarkable recovery and was later able to undertake some of the most dangerous test-flying of the war. He was awarded his Air Force Cross in 1942 for top secret work he did at the Armament and Experimental Establishment at Boscombe

This involved him and the handful of pilots selected for the work in taking off and landing with lethal cargoes of materials for a chemical weapons programme which, fortunately, never had to be activated in the struggle against Germany. The citation for Bell-Syer's AFC acknowledged "the taking of risks not required of any other pilots in the Service".

Herbert Benjamin Bell-Syer (who loathed his Christian names) joined the RAF from school in 1937. In May 1940 he was posted to No 73 Squadron. whose Hurricanes had been in France since September the previous year as part of the Advanced Air Striking Force. When the German Blitzkrieg began on May 10. No 73 was immediately in the thick of the action against the overwhelming tactical air power which supported the German advance into France and the Low Countries.

On May 24 Bell-Syer was

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flying one of four Hurricanes on patrol in the Cambrai area when they spotted a force of 30 Heinkel bombers supported by an equal number of Messerschmitt 110 fighters, heading to attack British and French troops on the ground. Unde-terred by the odds, the Hurricanes wheeled into the attack and two of their number. including Bell-Syer's, were shot down. Baling out of his



seen descending rapidly with a large rent in his parachute. He was posted as missing and was assumed to have been killed.

In fact, he had landed, if not safely, at least alive. And when on June 6, with the Dunkirk evacuation complete, one of his colleagues was sent to search for other downed 73 Squadron pilots in French hospitals that had not yet been overrun, he found Bell-Syer lying badly wounded and burnt in a hospital near Le Mans. With the signing of an Armistice in June, Bell-Syer was evacuated in a two-day grace period.

He was blinded, badly disfigured with burns to the face and hands, and had a severe shrapnel wound. A recovery complete enough to enable him to return to flying certainly could not have been predicted. But at Sir Archibald Mac-Indoe's famous burns unit at East Grinstead he eventually recovered his sight and, thanks to the surgeon's legen-dary skill, his handsome face was returned to normal.

Bell-Syer was enabled to return to flying early in 1941 and his exceptional skill as a pilot commended him to Boscombe Down, where he spent a good deal of the remainder of the war testing all sorts of aircraft. These ranged from biplanes to high-performance interceptor fighters and fourengined bombers.

He retired from the RAF as a squadron leader in 1947 and then went to Hawker Siddeley as a test pilot. By the time he retired from Hawker Siddeley 17 years later he had flown more than 80 different types of aircraft in his career.

In 1966 he joined the David McCall bloodstock agency. which was also the racing manager for Charles Engle-hart, a breeding and racing empire spanning Europe. South Africa and America. A great bon vivant, Bell-Syer was responsible for entertaining clients, something he did

with great style. Micky Bell-Syer married, in 1943, Elizabeth (Lady Burgh). divorced wife of the 6th Baron Burgh. This marriage was dissolved. He is survived by his companion of the last 18 years, Patricia Lady Foley.

Boxcar Willie. country music singer, died of leukaemia on April 12 aged 67. He was

born on September 1, 1931.

IN little more than a decade "the world's favourite hobo" made 15 gold and four platinum albums, with titles like Boxcar Willie's Truck Driving Songs and King of the Freight Train. He was perhaps best known for his version of King of the Road, but was happy to indulge every kind of sentiment, from Achy Breaky Heart to How Great Thou Art and Jesus Makes House Calls. He probably meant it all.

Lecil Travis Martin, born in Sterratt, near Dallas, Texas, was naturally keen to change his name and to run away from home. Known at first as Marty Martin, he often skipped school to "ride the rails", seeing America from the freight trains, and adopting their whistle as part of his repertoire. His father was a farmer who played the fiddle on his porch, and lent a hand on the railways — so he could sing Daddy Was a Railroad Man with pride.

He grew up admiring the genuine country singing of Jimmie Rodgers, Hank Wil-bams and Lefty Frizzell, and in his teens he played guitar and sang in jamborees all over Texas. He recorded an album in the late 1950s: Marty Martin Sings Country Music and Stuff Like That. It was not enough to make him famous, though, and he was to spend 22 years in the US Air Force. clocking up a huge mileage as a flier. Later, he was loyal to the Services, and maintained his links through numerous organisations.

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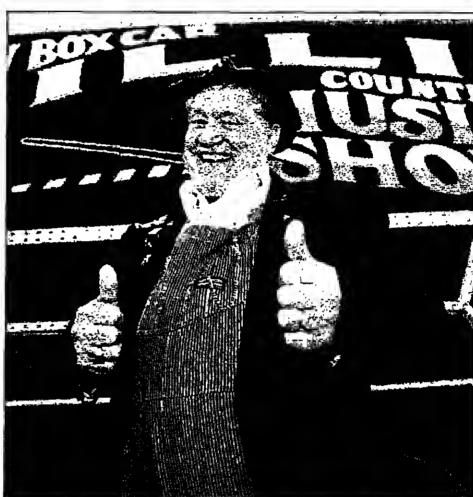
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BOXCAR WILLIE



Boxcar Willie: outside his theatre in Branson, Missouri, in 1997

When he retired from the Air Force he turned back to music, and set about perfecting the hobo persona, with overalls, battered hat, worn-out shoes and two days' growth of beard. He wrote a song called Boxcar Willie and adopted the name for both an album and himself. At the age of 50 he

won a Music City award for Most Promising Male Vocal-ist, and in 1982 his recording of Johnny Cash's Bad News (with train-whistle embellishment) was a success in the American

country charts.

He never had a proper hit single, but the albums sold in large numbers, and he did

ship in modern languages to Trinity College, Oxford, which he took up after 18 months

service in the Friends Ambu-

lance Unit. He graduated with

He went to work in the

engineering industry and real-

ised quickly that some scient-

ific knowledge was necessary to further his career. His

earlier scholastic brilliance

was reconfirmed when he

obtained good A levels in

chemistry, physics and mathe-

matics after one year of part-

He joined ICI in 1950 as an

a first in 1954.

time study.

especially well in Britain, notably at the Wembley country music festivals. He was styled a "world ambassador" for the Hobo Foundation. In 1987 he bought a 900-scat

theatre "with authentic charm" in Branson, Missouri, a little town with 3,700 residents, hundreds of country shows,

fifty hotels and millions of visitors. This move to America's music show capital, set in the Ozark Mountains, put him in gentle compedon with the Osmonds, Elvis imitators, Whispering Bill, the Lennon Brothers playing "canteen hits" and the Baldknobbers Jamboree (founded 1959), a musical comedy variety revue with sad-sack hillbilly clowns and

good ole pickin' and a singin'. The town may be a collective nostalgic fantasy about rural America, but it turns over money as surely and steadily as a Las Vegas fruit machine. Fans flock. Boxcar Willie performed six times a week for nine months of the year, as well as encouraging newcomers to take to the stage and instructing them on what would work best in that world of rhinestone-studded sincerity. II was quite a shock when fellow country singer David Allan Coe broke ranks to mock Boxcar Willie's name and train whistles.

Willie and his wife composed an enormous number of songs around a small number of themes, but he was most noted for renditions of old favourites such as Wabash Cannonball. and for his duets, with performers such as Carol Lee Cooper and Willie Nelson (who also has a theatre in Branson).

In 1990 he opened the Boxcar Willie Railroad and Airplane Museum, next door to his theatre and convenient for Ripley's Believe It or Not Museum, Ride the Ducks and the Hollywood Wax Museum.

He appeared in the film Sweet Dreams (1985), about Patsy Kline. His ambioon was to raise the Titanic.

He is survived by his wife and their two daughters.

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PROFESSOR FRANK LEES

Professor Frank Lees. engineer, died on March 18 aged 67. He was born on April 5, 1931.

FRANK LEES was a pioneer in the field of process safety, a technology devoted to the prevendon of disasters at chemical plants and refineries. He was responsible for much of the present development of this relatively new subject, which was stimulated by the explosions at Flixborough and on the Piper Alpha oil platform.

Lees took up the subject while working at Loughbor-ough University, and drew on his previous experience in the engineering tradition; his fa-

the gas industry in the North

East. He won an open scholar-

industry, particularly with tCI. Soon recognised for his outstanding ability, he was appointed by the Department of Trade and Industry to be technical assessor to the Piper Alpha disaster inquiry of 1988. Francis Pearson Lees was born into a family with an ther, grandfather and uncle had all held senior positions in

experimental officer in the central research laboratory. and very quickly impressed his superiors. His work was involved with the adoption of computer systems for process control in the company. To advance further in the chemical industry required a chemical engineering background. and he took part-time classes in the degree course at West

After two years he was enrolled as a full-time student at Imperial College, where he graduated a year later with



first-class honours. He spent another six years with ICt before he felt the urge to pursue an academic career. He was appointed to a staff posicion at Loughborough in 1967, and stayed there for the rest of his working life, progressing rapidly to a professorial appointment.

His special interest in process safety stemmed from this time but was coloured by his industrial experience. He founded and built up an outstanding research group whose work became internationally known.

He will be best be remem-

bered for his pioneering book Loss Prevention in the Process Industries, which has been translated into several languages, including Japanese and Chinese. He had just completed a revision for a second edition of this work when he was struck down by cancer three years ago.

His disonction was recognised by the awards he received from many technical and scienofic bodies. In 1985 he was elected a Fellow of the Royal Academy of Engineering and, in 1998, he received an honorary DSc from Loughborough. But he was no narrow-minded specialist. He was widely read and had a wonderful gift of coming up with appropriate quotations on almost any occasion. His learning, sense of humour and modesty are well illustrated by his use in the preface to a new edicion of his book of a quotation from Prince Bulow: The man who never made a mistake never made anything."
Frank Lees is survived by

his wife Elizabeth and by a son and a daughter.

LANDSLIDE IN WALES A MOVING MOUNTAIN

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT)

A mountain landslide at New Tredegar in the early hours of yesterday morning has overwhelmed the Powell Duffryn Colliery situated at the base of the mountain and completely blocked the Great Western Railway branch line and the main road to Abertysswg. Most of the surface buildings at the colliery have been wrecked, the ironwork of the pit shaft has been twisted and bent as if by the hand of some monstrous giant, and a considerable length of retaining wall built to protect the colliery premises and

the railway lies buried under the debris. The colliery is irretrievably doomed and, although estimates of the damage are difficult and naturally vary, there is no doubt that it amounts to hundreds of thousands of pounds, for in addition to the buildings and pithead gear de-stroyed all the underground plant will have to be sacrificed. Fortunately, there

April 14, 1930

ON THIS DAY

CARDIFF, April 13

The Welsh coalfields are no stranger to disaster. This one, unlike Aberfan, caused no fatalities but overwhelmed the Powell Duffryn Colliery at New Tredegar under thousands of tons of earth and rock.

has been no loss of life. As stated in The Times, the colliery was closed a few days ago for the ostensible reason that its working had become unremuneraove. but there is no doubt that the decision was largely influenced by the increasing menace to the colliery of the moving mountain overlooking it. Only the officials and skeleton maintenance staff were retained, and the last of these had left the colliery about an hour before the landslide occurred at 2am on Saturday.

The mountain has been giving trouble for many years, and as far back as 1905 there was a considerable landslide which did serious damage to the colliery winding engine house and pit machinery. The trouble then, as now, occurred after a period of heavy rainfall, and was attributed in some quarters to the percolation of water inlo a bed of sand believed to run underneath these mountains for a distance of several miles. The movement, which affects both the Glamorgan and Monmouthshire sides of the Rhymney river, became pronounced a few days ago, and new fissures appeared in the mountain slopes, particularly on the Monmouthshire side.

The first intimations of the impending danger were given on Friday afternoon. when portions of detached earth and stone began to crash down the mountain side. Towards evening the movement accelerated at a pace of 3in a minute, culminating soon after midnight in a tremendous slide, which overwhelmed the road, the railway, and part of the colliery premises below.

More troops bound for Macedonia Britain is sending another 2,000 troops, with tanks and artil-

lery, to the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, to be part of an international force for eventual deployment in Kosovo. Announcing the armoured battle group reinforcement in the Commons. Tony Blair said the extra troops were not being sent to invade Kosovo but to be ready to implement a peace settle-.... Reports, pages 1, 4-8

Prisoner releases could be stopped

■ The Government may be forced to consider halting prisoner releases if the Northern Ireland peace process has to be suspended. That would jeopardise the release of such figures as the Brighton bomber Patrick Magee and increase the likelihood of the Good Friday accord unravelling during a summer of contentious parades and European elections.....

Bank boss lasts a day Mike O'Neill, a 52-year-old American banker and former US Marine taken on to revive the ailing fortunes of Barclays Bank, lasted just one day on the job before succumbing to ill health ... Pages 1. 3

Snow mars cricket

Snow stopped play on the opening day of the county cricket season. Last year the opening fixtures of the cricket season saw scarecly any action, but it didn't snow until day two......Page I

Railtrack condemned

Britain's railways are in a worse condition than they were under British Rail, according to a critical Government report on Railtrack's first four years......Page 2

Tory confusion

William Hague shunned the national spotlight to launch his party's local election campaign at a school in true blue Tunbridge Wells in Kent - sparking confusion at Westminster over the Tories' declared aim of using the campaign to boost the party leader's public profile.....Page 2

Airbag warning urged

An airbag may have caused a woman's death in a head-on crash, an inquest was told, Jennifer Reichardt was said to have suffered a rare skull fracture when the inflating bag knocked her backwards into her seat's head-.. Page 3

Blair's vision for NHS Tony Blair has unveiled his vision of a revamped NHS, which would see doctors' surgeries open like high street shops and allow patients to drop in without an appointment, and medical advice for doctors and patients to be posted on the Internet......Page 9

Woodhead battle

The former wife of Chris Woodhead emerged from the shadows of a left-wing campaign to destabilise him - to challenge the Prime Minister to dismiss him as Chief Inspector of Schools......Page II

Kvaerner jobs threat

The Government was holding crisis talks to find new buyers for a Scottish shipyard and other operations after Kvaerner announced a shake-up threatening 5,000 British jobs

Movie beers banned

Move-makers are threatening to ban all blockbuster screenings at the Metro cinema in Penistone. near Barnsley, unless the operators stop the introduction of intervals for beers at the bar.. Page 13

Tunnel flames fanned

A decision by Italian officials to open a ventilation shaft when a fire broke out last month in the Mont Blanc tunnel linking France and Italy may have fanned the inferno, in which at least 41 people died, a preliminary report said......Page 14

Dressmaker stitches up royal deal

In the front room of a tiny ground floor flat, the wedding dress of royal bride Sophie Rhys-Jones is being designed by a young designer who caters for an elite circle of Chelsea socialites. Samantha Shaw, however, is about to be catapulted on to the world stage after her position as maker of The Royal Dress was confirmed yesterday....



Kvaerner is to sell its British engineering interests, including the Govan shipyard in Glasgow, putting thousands of jobs at risk. Page 12

Supermarket sweep: Tesco revealed trading data for last year which reveals that it is streaking away from Sainsbury's. But Tesco's opening hours have been criticised by the Irish Prime Minister Bertie

Net head: A 35-year-old accountant has been made head of Freeserve, the Internet arm of Dixons, the electrical retailer. John Pluthero will become chief executive of a business which Dixons is looking at making a separate company......Page 23 Markets: The FTSE 100 index broke new ground, finishing at a record 6513, up 71 points on the day. The pound finished marginally up against the dollar on \$1.6167, while

the euro slid about a third of penny

Footbatt: Emmanuel Petit has pledged his immediate future to Arsenal after earlier reports that he would quit England......Page 44 Cricket: Snow greeted the arrival of the domestic cricket season, with Durham's Riverside ground blan-

THE TIMES TODAY

out a ball bowledPage 44 Midweek view: Simon Barnes provokes debate with the argument that sport can be harmful to your health, both in the physical and mental sense... ... Page 42 Athletics: David Powell continues his countdown to the London Marathon on SundayPage 38 Tennis: Britons Tim Henman and

..... Pages 23, 26 | Championships in June..... Page 42

APTS

Pinum's, anyone? The new general director at Glyndebourne, Nicholas Snowman, tells Richard Morrison about his radical plans for the next ten years in Sussex.....Page 35 Rising stars: It is three for the price of one this week as the musicians keted as play was abandoned with-Rebecca, Katharine and Helena Wood get set to unite to share the stage at the Queen Elizabeth Hali in London

Absolutely abstract: The Royal Academy celebrates the headlong rush into abstraction of Vasily Kandinsky, whose passion and energy liberated Western art......Page 36 Strange truit: The Cranberries launch their comeback campaign with a low-key concert in Shep-Greg Rusedski have confirmed herds Bush; plus Echo and the Buntheir entries for the Stella Artois nymen in Norwich......Page 37

TOMORROW

IN THE TIMES

Rupert Everett, left,

plays Lord Goring in

Is Michael Eisner of

important Hollywood

Warner sold his studio?

SW Scotland, Glasgow, Central High-lands, Argyll, NW Scotland: cold. and windy with sunny spells and heavy, wintry showers. A strong northwest wind; gales in north. Max 7C (45F).

☐ Northern Ireland: early sunny spells then turning showery with many of the showers heavy and wintry. A freshening northwest wind. Max 8C (46F).

☐ Republic of Ireland: dry and bright then showers, heavy at times. Wind north-west light, fresh later. Max 9C (48F).

mogul since Jack

Disney the most

Oscar Wilde's An Ideal

FILMS

Husband

BOOKS

Saving tips: How to remortgage and save money: why it could pay to copy your children's financial habits; the best way to provide for a wrinkle-free retirement Page 15

Passing on skills: The theory of memes - ideas or skills that we copy - suggests that imitation has a role in evolucion.....

Lauren's story: Cherie Booth's sister Lauren denies that her activities have strained her links with the Page 17 Blairs___

Joenna Coles: "In London nothing would have persuaded me to attend a breakfast lecture. But here the hours from 6am to 9am are time aching to be filled"...... Page 17

Dirty work: Householders living on contaminated land are angry that they may have to pay for clean-up costs.

On the face of things, it is easy to dismiss Chinese Premier Zhu Rongii's current visit to Washington as a failure because the big prize, China's accession to the World Trade Organisation, has eluded him. This, of course, is regrettable. But has Mr Zhu really walked away empty-handed? Not really - if one looks at the other achievements of his trip, the Chinese leader has scored.

The Straits Times, Singapore

properly - a policy to which gung ho American opinion appears to be dragging Britain. But such a policy must be mad

ROGER SCRUTON

WEDNESDAY APRIL 14 1990

Preview: Brenda Blethyn and Julie Walters star in the heart-warming drama Girls Night. (ITV, 9pm) Review: Peter Barnard marvels at the

achievement of the Breitling Orbit.

er 3 balloonists......Pages 42 42

The longer the campaign lasts, the

Clear targets

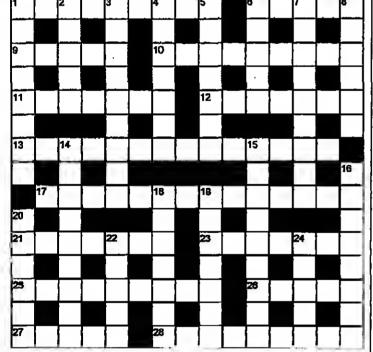
search of their civilisation - the continuous tradition of which gives them a claim to nationhood equal to that of the Scots and Serbs. And they will discover that they have forgotten it

The Palace has granted me exclusive access to their fat dossier on the first couple to pass the rigorous ... Page 18

of Justice in Scotland 1967-84;

John Diamond's battle with cancer; power of the judiciary; civil legal aid; last British battle; cost of music lessons; birdwatching...... Page 19

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 21,077



- **ACROSS**
- 1 Joined prisoner at end of sentence outside prison (9). 6 The Black Watch? (5).
- 9 Jazz work shown by broadcaster half-heartedly (5). 10 Noticing bishop in old boots, say
- (9). 11 Former partner's generous, for in-
- 12 Tragic princess in song bound to be rejected (7). 13 Devastation of land enabled eve-
- 17 Busy doctor helped with his cases

ryone to see ultimate issue

- (8.6). 21 Shake sauce to go on unopened bun (7).
- 23 Fellow sent back by boss in plant
- 25 Some junk the amount found in

Solution to Puzzle No 21,076



- 26 Clothing in demand in outskirts of Dethi? (5).

 27 Wheat that's part of problem mer-chants revealed (5).
- 28 Intend to reform after one finally
- DOWN
- Like fine construction, easily damaged by falling under horse and trap (8).
- ly part of Africa (5). Disliked university, new one, in
- London area (9). I must be held up in a vessel as far
- away as possible (7). Catch, dashed upset, seen wriggling about (7).
- Composer's quashed (5). Foreign money invested in glamorous and ambitious contract
- (5.4). 8 Husband subsequently admitted making fuss (6).
- 14 A posh name involved with the top club (9).
 15 Feeling upset, left old colony, predicting ruin (4-5).
 16 European schoolboys finally
- moved (8). 18 Accomplished FBI agent scoffed
- 18 Accomplished FBI agent scotled too much (7).
 19 Peoplé initially going to suffer under minor potentate (7).
 20 Ask bridge player about one opponent in game of cards (6).
 22 Drawing instrument found among dividers? (5).
- 24 Language from officer disheart-ened one (5).

Times Two Crossword, page 44

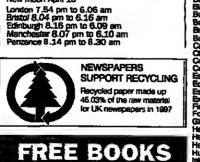
AA INFORMATION

414 372

pred car reports from eny of 175 curs 0224 614 199

HOURS OF GARANESS

Moon sets: 5.39 pm



SCHOOL



General: England and Wales will have a ☐ Generat: England and Wales will have a tew sunny spells but there will be prolonged heavy showers, most frequent this after-noon, many of them of hall, sleet and possi-bly snow. The best chance of drier and brighter weather will be on southwestern coasts. Gales in northwest Scotland, with trequent wintry showers, will make it feel especially cold. The rest of Scotland will also be windy with showers or longer spells of rain and some soow on the mountains.

of rain and some snow on the mountains. Sheftered southern areas will, however, see some sunny spells. some surny spees.

Tonsight: evening showers will quickly die out across much of England and Wales to leave another cold night with long, clear spells. Sneltered parts of Scotland will also have some clear skies, and temperatures will drop below freezing before further wintry showers spread southwards into east and northeast England by morning.

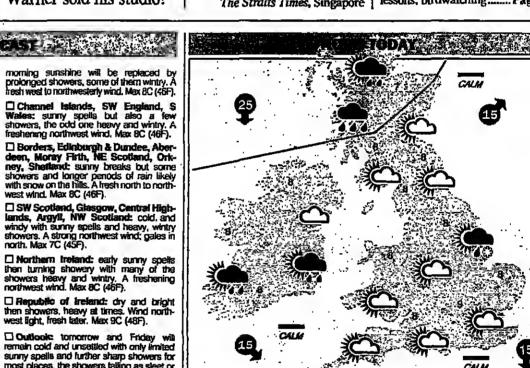
London, SE England, E Angla, Central S England: Starting cold but generally dry and bright before cloud builds bringing heavy and frundery showers, many of them of hail, sket or perhaps snow. A moderate west to northwest wind. Max temp 8C (46F).

Midlands, N. Wales, N.W. England, Lake District, lele of Man: cold with heavy showers, some thundery with hell, sleet or snow mixed in. A freshening northwest wind. Max 8C (46F). ☐ E England, Central N, NE England:

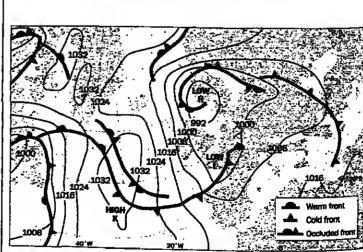
☐ Outbook: tomorrow and Friday will remain cold and unsettled with only limited sunny spella and further sharp showers for most places, the showers telling as sleet or snow over the hills. The wind should, how ever, gradually ease.

Ram In 02048 00.04 00.05 0.20 0.08 0.05 0.09 0.15 0.20 0.10 0.37 0.06 0.30 0.05

64 s 666 f | 9 s 6 1 s 6 5 5 2 5 7 3 5 9 5 2 5 1 1 9 9 5 2 5 1 1 5 5 2 5 6 3 7 3 5 2 6 1 7 521 44 47 73 77 77 66 48 77 73 48 77 75 48 52 1 Geneva Gibratar Helsinid Hong K Innsbruck Isterabul Jorburg L Palmas Le Tquet Lisbon Locarno L Angeles Lucembg



Changes to the chart below from noon; lows H and L will drift slowly north;



9.1 22:10 8.5 12:33 2.3 20:08 4.8 22:48 6.6 17:13 6.8 15:54 5.3 15:24 1.8 17:45 4.4 22:18 5.9 22:07 4.2 22:54 1.8 17:14 1.8 17:14 1.8 17:14 1.8 17:14 1.8 17:14 11:54 5:36 9:24 5:22 4:04 9:29 10:03 3:35 11:17 10:31 8:50 4:52 4:54 1:01 Aberdeen
Avonmouth
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ay: highest day temp: Penzance, Comwall. 13C (55F), lowest day mar Lod noch, Highland, 2C (36F); highest rainfall: Budon, Derbyshire, 0.53ms, highest sunshine: Torquey, Devon, 11.2 hrs.

grimmer will be its impact on the Yugoslav economy Page 19 On probation Last August Jack Straw promised to toughen up probation. His retreat on other proposals raises questions as to how tough his shake-up of probation will be Page 19 A breath of fresh aria Glyndebourne's new general director takes exciting risks - not least at the box office..... The continues of PETER RIDDELL The ends are broadly agreed, but the means remain cloudy Backing the means remain cloudy. Backing at Westminster for the Nato military action in Kosovo has increased since before Easter.....Page 8 SIMON JENKINS Having pulled Mr Milosevic on to the punch, the coherent policy would at least be to punch him

.....Page 18 The English will, instead, set out in

ALAN COREN

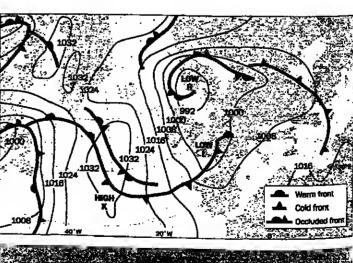
selection process....

Lord Stott, Senator of the College

Squadron Leader H. B. "Micky" Bell-Syer, fighter pilot, Boxcar Willie, country music singer: Professor Frank Lees, engineer .. Page 21 -

Criticism of the Nato campaign:

high K will remain slow-moving in mid-Atlantic



rethir

Losing the old spark Arts, page 37

AY APRIL 14 14

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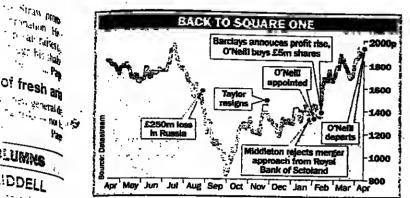


BUSINESS · ARTS · PROPERTY · SPORT · TELEVISION

BUSINESS EDITOR Patience Wheatcroft

WEDNESDAY APRIL 14 1999

Barclays starts search again as O'Neill goes



BY CAROLINE MERRELL BANKING CORRESPONDENT

THE shock departure of Mike O'Neill, Barclays chief executive, after just 18 days in the post, leaves Sir Peter Middleton, the bank's group chief executive, once again desperately seeking a replacement for Martin Taylor, who quit in November last year, with a £1.5 million payoff.

Shares in Barclays initially fell 49p on the news of Mr O'Neill's resignation, but end-

ed trading up 46p on the day at 1919p. The market is taking the view that Barclays without O'Neill could become a takeover target.

After the emergence of the heart complaint over which he resigned, coming after a bout of influenza, Mr O'Neill actually only spent one day in the of-fice in London — and that was the day he resigned.

Sir Peter said yesterday that he intended to go back to the shortlist he had drawn up before appointing Mr O'Neill. He did not rule out an internal went. All the businesses have appointment or the appointbeen doing very well. There ment of another American have not been any board disbanker. He said that all the exputes." Ruling himself out, he added: "It has never been my ecutive directors had been interviewed for the position. Those considered include ambition to do this job." Sir Peter also confirmed that Christopher Lendrum, chief ex-Andrew Buxton, who is to

and John Varley, chief executive of retail services. Sir Peter promised that the appointment would be made swiftly. He said: "We have got to take a quick decision. This

ecutive of corporate banking.

consultancy a year. He also said that he was con-

nounced the closure of its Sava-

centre headquarters, with the

loss of more than 200 jobs. An-

alysts' expectations are that

Sainsbury's recent like-for-like

sales will be up not much

Tesco also revealed that it

plans to increase the number

of stores that will deliver to cus-

tomers ordering via the Inter-

nel from 11 to 100. Tesco's free

Internet access business has at-

tracted 200,000 subscribers

with 10,000 new additions per

Some £450 million of Tes-

co's capital expenditure budg-

et this year will be spent over-

more than I per cent.

tinuing with plans to appoint a finance director, although Oliver Stocken, who was due to step down at the AGM would continue for the time being.

Earlier this year, it was re-vealed that Sir Peter had rejected a merger with Royal Bank of Scotland, headed by Sir stand down as chairman, following the annual meeting on George Mathewson. Sir Peter April 23, is to stay on contract admitted that the bank had to the Barclays Middle Eastbeen in talks with a number of em division on an annual saladifferent financial institutions ry of £120,000 for 60 days of about deals.

Commentary, page 25

Findus

frozen

out by

Nestle

BY CARL MORTISHED

NESTLE is in discussions to

sell Findus, its frozen food

brand to EQT Scandinavia, a

buyout fund linked to the Wal-

The Swiss multinational

wants to shed the commodity

end of its frozen food business

in Europe in order to concen-

trate on more profitable pre-

pared foods products. Nestlé

also revealed plans to buy a

Spanish prepared frozen food

and snacks business, jointly

with Danone, the French

A spokesman for Nestlé said

that the Findus deal had two prongs — the shedding of low-

margin commodity frozen foods and the exiting from the

brand. He said that Nestle wanted to focus on higher add-

ed-value products than frozen

vegetables and indicated the

brand had insufficient market

The businesses to be sold

have sales of SwFrl billion

(£418 million). Analysts reck-

oned that Nestle would fail to secure a price as high as sales

because of the business's weak

margins; a price of SwPr600-700 million is being

foods group.

lenberg business empire.

Business Today



Janet Bush says that euro

STOCK MARKET INDICES

New York: 10373.08 (+33.57)* S&P Composite... 1251.87 (-6.97)*

New York:

NORTH SEA OIL

mooted. Nestle has been distancing itself from the Findus brand; the Swiss group has failed to achieve much success in widening the appeal of Findus beyond France and Scandinavia. since it was acquired in the

The replay

neither

wanted

Sport, page 44

Commentary: Withdrawals at Barclays Stock Market: Supercharged London



woes should come as no surprise

US PLATE
Federal Funds 4"-%"
Long bond 95"
Yeld 5.48%

LONDON MONEY
3-min interbenk... 5-% (5-%)

STERLING

DOLLAR

denotes miciday trading prices

In the UK, Findus products are being rebranded as Crosse & Blackwell. Nestle has a frozen food plant at Longbarton, near Newcastle, which employs 800 people. The company Tempus, page 26 would not say whether it would be affected by the disposal.

Shares rise to a record despite **Kosovo** worries

BY ALASDAIR MURRAY ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

THE stock market yesterday shook off concern about the intensifying conflict in Kosovo to hil a record closing high and take its rise this year past 10 per cent.

European markets also gained, playing down re-ports that Serb troops had crossed into Albania and shrugging off rising criticism of the European Cen-

tral Bank's performance. Dresdner Bank claimed that last week's ECB rate cut had undermined the fledg-ling central bank's credibility and had increased the chance of a rise in European

rates by the end of the year. The markets, bowever, were again encouraged by a bullish mood on Wall Street, where benign economic data helped to ease lingering concern that the US economy may overheat. US consumer prices rose by 0.2 per cent in March, only slightly above the 0.1 per cent recorded in February. Consumer sales growth also eased back to a modest

0.2 per cent. The data helped push the Dow Jones industrials average, which scored a record close on Monday. gently higher in early trade. In London the FTSE 100 index closed up 71.9 points at 6,513.1, just short of an alltime peak of 6.519.5 set earlier in the day. The London market has now risen by

10.7 per cent in 1999. Shares in Paris climbed to a new high for 1999, and German shares rose 1.1 per cent as investors retained a positive view of last week's halfpoint ECB rate cut.

However, Klaus Friedrich, Dresdner Bank's chief economist, yesterday made a stinging attack on the ECB rate cut, claiming that it had only increased economic uncertainty in the euro area.

Herr Friedrich said that the unexpectedly big cut belied the ECB's commitment to market transparency. It had also raised doubt about whether the ECB is committed to a Bundesbank-style policy of monetary stability or whether it has opted for the more activist stance of the US Federal Reserve or

The possible result of this month's interest rate cut could be that the ECB has to raise rates again sooner than it would otherwise." Herr Friedrich said. This is the danger of following an

Euro woes, page 27

Tesco's performance leaves rivals trailing

By Sarah Cunningham RETAIL CORRESPONDENT

TESCO, the largest supermarket group in Britain, revealed yesterday that it is streaking further ahead of J Sainsbury, its nearest rival, with an increase in market share to 15.8 per cent from 15.2 per cent.

Tesco, which reported a £1 billion rise in sales to £18.5 billion for last year, also revealed plans to step up its expansion at home and abroad with investments of £1.3 billion. The move will create 20,000 jobs, half of them overseas. Terry Leahy, chief executive,

THE Irisb Prime Minister has attacked plans by Tesco to open an all-year, 24-hour snpermarket in Duhlin (Audrey Magee writes). Bertie Ahern described the plan as "not something that the public are demanding", adding. There is a Christmas requirement as obviously people are busy, but to do that on a year round basis is just pressing the staff and

in the past few weeks this had

an inquiry into claims of overcharging. said that the recent price-cut-ting campaign had boosted vals, and the figures should Tesco's sales, which were up 4 per cent like for like in the year as a whole. He said that show a big contrast with Sains-

£881 million. A number of anaincreased to nearer 5 per cent.

about £942 million to £960 million. The company will pay a final dividend of 2.87p, giving a

the workers to an unnecessary degree." Mr

Ahern's intervention will be a blow to Tes-

co which is struggling to gain acceptance in the Irish Republic despite becoming the

second-largest chain after a £630 million ac-

quisition two years ago. In January, the

Irish director of consumer affairs launched

bury's," one analyst said.

Tesco's underlying pre-tax profit rose from E817 million to third-quarter trading figures on Friday and is also set to cul

The industry average is lysts increased their forecasts up to 350 head office jobs. Alabout 1.5 per cent. They are for current-year profit from ready this week it has an

seas. II currently operates eight hypermarkets in Eastern Europe and is set to open ten more this year. In the Far East, three more hypermarkets are set to open in Thailand and two in South Korea, where it has recently agreed a joint venture with into the Taiwanese and Malay-

sian markets. In the UK it plans to open about 25 more stores, taking its total to 600. Tesco Personal Finance, its joint venture with Royal Bank of Scotland, should break even by the end of the current year,

the company said. Mr Leahy said that he thought the recent decision to refer the supermarkets sector to the Competition Commission was "unfortunate". He added: "I'm sure they'll see in the end that this is a very com-petitive business." The commission has already written to Tesco, and meetings are expected to start soon.

Bearing fruit: Terry Leahy, chief executive of Tesco, which has seen its share of the market increase to 15.8 per cent One 2 One forced to rethink pre-pay tariffs

ONE 2 ONE, Britain's smallest mobile phone company, is to radically reorganise its tariff structures to improve the profitability of its so-called pre-pay" customers.

The announcement was made as the company revealed that pre-pay customers - who buy call vouchers instead of signing long-term contracts spend just £200 a year, compared with the £480 a year speni by contract customers. However, One 2 One said that pre-pay customers were cheaper to acquire. The tariff shakeup comes amid turmoil for One 2 One, whose owners, Cable & Wireless and MediaOne, are considering a trade sale or a floal of the company. One 2 One's new tariffs - to

be launched on April 29, with an £8 million advertising campaign - will see pre-pay call prices cut from 40p a minute to 10p or 2p a minute, depending on whether calls are made during peak time or off-peak time. Prices will be the same for na-

tional and local calls. However, the new pre-pay tariffs will include a "daily charge", starting at 50p, which means that pre-pay customers will effectively pay the same in monthly line rental as contract customers. For the time being, One 2 One will continue to offer its 40p-a-minute pre-pay service without daily charges. Tim Samples, managing di-

rector, said: "This is a new pre-

pay approach. We are simplify-ing tariffs and reducing the

cost of calling. Three-and-a-half million people have gone to pre-pay so far. What we want to do is grow that market and increase our share of it." He added that he wanted to persuade One 2 One customers to use their mobile phones in-stead of their fixed-line BT

phones, and said there was "no

evidence" to suggest mobile handsets were a health threat. One 2 One will also offer its contract customers 10p and 2pa-minute call charges. Monthly line rentals will range from £15, with no free calls, to £25, with 1,200 minutes of free offpeak calls. The company also said it would soon introduce a mobile phone e-mail service.

Commentary, page 25

Freeserve chief named

BY CHRIS AYRES

DIXONS GROUP yesterday appointed John Pluthero, a 35-year-old accountant, as chief executive of Freeserve, its free Internet access business.

The appointment was announced just 24 hours after Dixons revealed that it had hired Credit Suisse First Boston and Cazenove & Co to advise on a potential stock market flotation of Freeserve.

Dixons said that Mr Pluthero had "formulated the group's Internet strategy and devised, developed and launched Freeserve". He has a first class degree in economics from the London School of Economics and is a qualified consultant. Analysts estimate that Free-

serve could be worth between £1.8 billion and £4 billion.

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Restructure to cut Kvaerner by a third

By Carl Mortished

ngiệ

INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS EDITOR

KVAERNER launched a massive restructuring programme yesterday which will shrink the Anglo-Norwegian engineering group by a third, cost its shareholders Kr4 billion (£330 million) and lead to the loss of 25,000 jobs

In an attempt to reverse years of mismanagement and the financial effects of its £904 million bid for Trafalgar House, Kvaerner plans to quit shipbuilding, cutting its annual revenues by Kr.25 billion to create a slimmer com-

tracting. Kvaerner is dramatically reversing the near-suicidal expansion plan of three years ago, when il bought Trafalgar House, taking on huge debts and extraneous assets, such as the Cunard cruise line, which it has since sold. In October the board ousted former chief executive Erik Tonseth.

His successor, Kjell Almskog, yester-day said that shipbuilding would be a drain on profits for the foreseeable future. Kvaerner has set itself the task of reversing last year's Krl.35 billion loss to a profit of between Kr500 million to asked to fund the new strategy with a

pany focused on engineering and con- Krl billion at the end of next year. "By the end of the year 2000 we aim to achieve a return on capital of at least 15 per cent," he said.

The cost of shedding the shipyards, which will either be spun-off in a flotation or sold individually, is expected to leave Kvaerner with a loss of Kr2 billion, a charge that is to be borne in the first-quarter accounts. A further charge of Kr2 billion is to be taken for the sale of non-core assets and restructuring.

The company's North Sea oil and gas contracting business is to be slimmed

Kr2 billion rights issue. The company is promising cost savings of Krl billion per year from a radical priming of its payroll. This will involve the closure or transfer of 33 offices worldwide with the loss of 290 staff. In addition, three London headquarters locations are to be reduced to the single Hammersmith office complex, saving Kr50-60 million. Some Kr650 million will be gained

from reducing overheads at a divisional level. In engineering and oil and gas, offices in London and Perth will be integrated, with staff reductions of 1,300. down. Kvaerner investors are being

Commeotary, page 25

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

US brokers report

record first quarter

WALL STREET'S recovery from last year's global market tutmoil was underlined yesterday when Merrill Lynch, the biggest LIS broker, and Paine Webber, another top-five securiues house, reported record first-quarter profits. The strong per-formance lifted the shares of both companies in early trading and also boosted Internet brokers, such as Charles Schwah.

Merrill Lynch, which owns Mercury Asset Management.

the UK-based fund manager, said that net earnings were \$609 million [£378 million], up 18 per cent on the same peri-

od in 1998. The results were buoyed by rising commissions

and trading profits. The earnings per share figure of \$1.44 topped analysts forecasts, which had hovered about \$1.23

Net revenues were up 11 per cent to \$5.3 billion. Staff costs increased by the same factor. Merrill said that Mercury had

continued to build momentum, with new institutional

business at record levels in the period. Paine Webber profits rose 33 per cent to \$160.6 million in the first three months of the year, again well ahead of forecasts. Revenues were \$1.3 billion, up 18 per cent.

secured by £1.3bn Nat Power deal

By CHRISTINE BUCKLEY, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

RJB's future is

THE future of RJB Mining, Britain's higgest coal producer, was secured yesterday when it won a £1.3 hillion contract from National Power.

However, much of the agreement to huy up to 28 million tonnes of coal from RJB hinges on opoons for the huge Drax power station, which is being sold. The new owners of Drax.

which burns 10 million tonnes of coal a year and supplies 10 per cent of England and Wales's power, could choose to buy supplies from overseas. It is thought that up to 14 million tonnes of the deal are only opcontracts.

The four-year deal comes on top of an 18-million tonne, three-year agreement signed last year between Naoonal Power and RJB — taking the full contract to five years.

The price is thought to be 120p a gigajoule, in line with previous contracts with PowerGen and Eastern and about 20 per cent lower than prices commanded last year by RJB under old contracts.

If Naconal Power and the new Drax owners take all 46 million tonnes, RJB will be left with overcapacity of one to two million tonnes. However, with the closure of two mines owned by an independent mining company and the possibility of increasing sales to indus-trial markets. RJB could reasonably expect to find extra sales in the short term.

Richard Budge, chief execu-tive of RJB, said that all collieries had now been saved from the threat of closure on market grounds, although geological factors were not so certain. He said the deal would "enable us to plan our mining operations in the most cost- effective way for some years to come".

There have been claims that because the market, rather than policy, dictates Britain's energy mix, RJB cannot make long-term investment plans. However, Mr Budge said: "We have contracts stretching over four years. How many

FTSE companies have that?" Graham Brown, National Power's managing director, said that there could be scope for further purchases under the long-term deal.
John Battle, Energy Minis-

ter, said: "It's welcome news that National Power, like other major generators, has recognised the value of UK coal in providing flexible and secure supplies in an increasingly competitive market." The Government's Energy

White Paper, published last year, was triggered by a crisis looming in coalmining as gas displaced coal in the generat-ing market. Ministers set a de facto moratorium on new gasfired power stations, but last week did a U-turn by allowing



Merlyn Lowther, chief cashier of the Bank of England, yesterday signing the global bill representing €300 million (£202 million) when the Bank held its first auction of euro bills

Cruickshank extends review

man hired by the Government to investigate the competitiveness of Britain's retail banks, said yesterday that he had extended his review to take in electronie commerce and money transmission

(Caroline Merrell writes). Mr Cruickshank, who launched his review at the beginning of the year, said that

DON CRUICKSHANK, the he had received more than 100 responses - and 70 complaints from members of the public against banks and fi-

> The review is looking at the competitiveness of the banks' lending to small businesses. current accounts and credit cards. Mr Cruickshank is expected to report his findings by the end of the year.

Yesterday at a briefing or the review's progress. Mr Cruickshank said: The responses to the consultation locument have been though!-

ful and constructive."

Mr Cruickshank also denied categorically that Gor-don Brown, the Chancellor. had ever considered imposing any kind of windfall tax on

Tie Rack in the red

TIE RACK, the troubled British neckwear retailer that recently sold out for £22.6 million to one of its suppliers, the Italian textile firm Frangi, said yesterday that trading in the first ten weeks of its new financial year remained challenging. The group, which operates from 420 outlets, also revealed that losses before tax and exceptional items were £7.4 million for the year to January 31, 1999, having made a profit of £5.1 million last ome. Turnover in the year fell 13 per cent to £90 million.

House price gap

THE gap between house prices in London and the rest of the South East is now wider than it was at any time in the 1980s housing boom, according to the Nationwide Building Society's latest quarterly review. It indicates that house prices in London are now 20 per cent higher than the South East and nearly two and half times, on average, higher than the North. The society has lifted its forecast for house price inflation this year from 2.5 per cent to 4.5 per cent because of an improve-ment in consumer confidence after recent cuts in base rates.

and

PacifiCorp go-ahead

SCOTTISH POWER vesterday cleared UK regulatory hutdles in its £4.7 billion attempt to takeover PacifiCorp. But the company still faces a series of regulatory challenges in the US: Kim Howells, Competition and Consumer Affairs Minister, said he would allow the merger, which in effect is a takeover, following the advice of the Office of Fair Trading and the energy regulator. If the takeover is completed, Scottish Power has said it will restructure the holding company to divide generation and non-electricity businesses from the others.

Japanese venture for 3i

THE venture capitalist 3i is on the search for management buyout potential in Japan, with the announcement of a joint venture with Industrial Bank of Japan. The two are launching a Y20 billion (£100 million) initial fund in which the equity split will be 60-40 in 3i's favour. Brian Larcombe, chief executive of 3i, said: "We see many parallels with the development of our market in Germany. There is a need for large companies to restructure and concentrate on core activities and for independent companies to solve their own succession problems.

EXCHANGE RATES



 Today The Times, in association with the Virgin One account. offers readers the chance to win a lovely cottage in the typical Cornish village of Perranwell Station. Smithy Cottage, with its two bedrooms and pretty garden, is the ideal holiday home. Close to Truro and an 18-hole golf course, our prize cottage will provide the lucky winner with the perfect place from which to watch the eclipse of the sun on August 11.

FIGW TO ENTER Collect 12 Times tokens and two tokens from The Sunday Times and attach them to an entry form which appeared for

the last time yesterday. Tokens will appear up to April 18 and a bonus token will be published on Friday. The winner will be chosen at random from all entries received by Friday, April 30, 1999. Normal Times Newspapers prize

draw rules apply.





CHANGING TIME

National Provident Institute Notice of Exercise in a Veneral Westing

NOTICE is hereby given thar an Extraordinary General Meeting of National Provident Institution ("NPI") will be held at The Wembley Conference Centre, Empire Way, Wembley, Middlesex HA9 ODW, on Wednesday 19th May 1999 at 11.00 a.m. to consider aod, if thought fit, to pass a resolution, which will be proposed as a Special Resolution, with effect as follows:

(a) approving, and authorising and instructing the carrying into effect by the Directors of NPI of, the proposals described in a circular to members and policyholders of NPI dated 6th April 1999, including, without limitation, a scheme providing for the transfer to National Provident Life Limited, a subsidiary of AMP (UK) PLC, of NPI's long term husiness pursuant to Section 49 of, and Part 1 of Schedule 2C to, the Insurance Companies Act 1982 (the "Scheme") and granting the Directors of NPI power to agree to or make such additions, deletions or amendments to such proposals, and to do all such rhings on hehalf of NPI, as they consider necessary or desirable to carry such proposals into effect;

(b) subject to the Scheme being sanctioned by an Order of the High Court of Justice, amending the Rules of NPI ro:

(ii) confer membership of NPI on legal or contractual assignees and transferees (or in the case of joint assignees or transferees, the unanimously nominated or, failing such nomination, first named living assignee or transfereel, including an assignee in trust but not an assignee or trustee in bankruptcy, receiver or administrative receiver, who by the Effective Date (as defined in the Schemel has acquired the absolute right to an insurance policy written by NPI, subject to such assignee or transferee complying with the laws of NPI from time to time, such membership to be effective from the date of assignment or transfer and to replace the membership of the assignor or transferor in tespect of that insurance with effect from such date;

(iii) confer membership of NPI on any assignee or trustee in hankruptcy, receiver or administrative receiver in place of the former member if so agreed between him and NPI and he complies with the laws of NPI from time to time; and

(iv) authorise the Directors of NPI to resolve conclusively any doubts as to whether or not any person is a member of NPI and for this purpose to rely upon NPI's records and, subject to any conclusive evidence to the contrary, to assume that any assignce or transferee of a policy shown in NPI's computer records has acquired the absolute right to such policy; and

(c) subject to the Scheme taking effect, adopting new Rules of NPI pursuant to which existing membership rights of NPI's members will be extinguished and National Provident Life Limited will become the sole member of NPI, and a number of consequential changes will be made.

Principal Office: 55 Calverley Road Tunbridge Wells TNI 2UE

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD Steven O'Brien Secretary 12th April 1999

NOTES:

1. The above is an explanation of the effect of the proposed Special Resolution given in accordance with Rule 16(3) of the Rules of NP1. The actual Special Resolution which is to he considered can be inspected during normal husiness hours at NPI's principal office detailed above and is set out in full in a Circular which is being sent to members and

2. Any member entitled to vote at meetings of NPI is entitled to appoint another person (who need not be a member of NPI) as his proxy to attend at the Extraordinary General Meeting and, on a poll, vote instead of him.

3. Forms of proxy and the power of attorney or other authority, if any, under which they are signed, or a certified copy of such power or authority, should be returned to arrive not later than 11.00 a.m. on 17th May 1999 at NPI, PO Box 6352, London N1 1XT (by post) or at Electoral Reform (Ballot Services), Independence House, 33 Clarendon Road, London NE ONW (by hand). The lodging of a form of proxy will not prevent a member from voting in person at the Extraordinary General Meeting, if

4. It is important that members intending to vote personally bring with them to the Extraordinary General Meeting the letter accompanying their form of proxy or, failing that, details of their policy number(s) and some means of identification. Holders of proxies should bring with them to the Extraordinary General Meeting details of the policy number(s) in respect of which they have heen appointed proxy and some means of identification. On arrival at the Extraordinary General Meeting, please register with the officials who will be at the door. Registration will commence at 9.30 a.m.

Notice of the Annual General Meeting

National Provident Institution

NOTICE is hereby given that the 163rd Annual General Meeting of Members of National Provident Institution ("NPI") will be held at The Wembley Conference Centre, Empire Way, Wembley, Middlesex HA9 0DW, on Wednesday 19th May 1999 at 11.30 a.m. or, if later, immediately after the conclusion (or adjournment) of the Extraordinary General Meeting of NPI convened at 11.00 a.m. on that day, for the transaction of the following ordinary business.

Resolution I. To receive and adopt the Accounts and Report of the Directors for the year ended 31st December 1998. Resolution 2. To reappoint as a Director, Mr P W Moore, who has joined the Board since the last Annual General Meering.

Resolution 3. To reappoint as a Director, Mr J J H Wormell, who is retiring by rotation. Resolution 4. To reappoint as a Director, Mr L J Martin, who is retiring by rotation. Notice is given under Rule 46 (1)(b) of NPI's Rules that Mr L J Martin will attain the age

of 70 years on 20th April 1999. Resolution 5. To reappoint as a Director, Mr D J M Roberts, who is retiring by rotation.

Resolution 6. To reappoint as a Director, Mr A D Lyons, who is retiring hy rotation. (Mr Wormell, Mr Martin and Mr Roberts are members of the Remuneration Committee)

Resolution 7. To consider the following resolution, special notice having been received of the intention to propose the resolution as an ordinary resolution: THAT PricewaterhouseCoopers be reappointed Auditors of the Company (having previously been appointed by the Board to fill the casual vacancy arising by reason of the resignation of Coopers & Lyhrandl, to hold office until the conclusion of the next general meeting at which the accounts are laid before the Company and that their remuneration be fixed by the Directors.

> Principal Office: 55 Calverley Road Tunbridge Wells TN1 2UE

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD Steven O'Brien 12th April 1999

1. Any member entitled to vote at meetings of NP1 is entitled to appoint another person (who need not be a member of NPI) as his proxy to attend the Annual General Meeting

2. Forms of proxy and the power of attorney or other authority, if any, under which they are signed, or a certified copy of such power or authority, should be returned to arrive not later than 11.30 a.m. on 17th May 1999 at NP1, PO Box 6352, London N1 1XT (by post) or at Electoral Reform (Ballot Services), independence House, 33 Clarendon Road. London NE ONW (by hand). The lodging of a form of proxy will not prevent a member from voting in person at the Annual General Meeting, if he or she wishes to do so.

3. It is important that members intending to vote personally bring with them to the Annual General Meeting the letter accompanying their form of proxy or, failing that, details of their policy number(s) and some means of identification. Holders of proxies should bring with them to the Annual General Meeting details of the policy number(s) in respect of which they have been appointed proxy and some means of identification. On arrival at the Annual General Meeting, please register with the officials who will be at the door. Registration will

4. If you would like a copy of NPI's Report and Accounts for the year ended 31st December 1998, please write to Steven O'Brieu, NPI, Box 45, National Provident House, 55 Calverley Road, Tunbridge Wells, Kent, TN1 2UE.

PROVIDING PENSIONS SINCE 1835

B arclays does appear to be the victim of genuine bad luck in losing its latest chief executive on his first day in office. While the initial reaction to Mike O'Neill's resignation was frantic whierering as was frantic whispering as to what horrific revelations had caused him to feel that the job was not worth taking on, even for a £10 million package, the facts are more prosaic, if harder on Mr O'Neill.

くいのがい

Running a bank is a stressful job, and Barclays probably more than most, as Martin Taylor might confirm. It is not a task for a man with a heart condition and both Mr O'Neill and the bank have clearly made a sensible decision. But it does leave Barclays in

Not only is it without a chief executive but it has a finance director who is itching to flee. The ap-pointment of his successor was being delayed until Mr O'Neill could make the final choice. The likelihood now is that Oliver Stocken's replacement will have to be appointed before the new

chief executive is finalised.
Chairman Andrew Buxton will not, however, hold up his retirement. Not that he is leaving the bank. Mr Buxton will now assume a lucrative consultancy role. His apparent value to the bank's Far East operations has come as a revelation to some Barclays' watchers, but a consultancy is not an uncommon perk for those who are not yet ready to

Withdrawais at Barclays

live on a pension. And Mr Buxton had agreed to make way for Sir Peter Middleton, the former Treasury mandarin who was

ready for a bank chairmanship.
Sir Peter, already acting chief executive, will just have to combine his acting with the chairman-ship. Yesterday, he was indicat-ing that he did not think he would be doing so for very long but in making the next appointment, Barclays has to be careful that it does not look as if it is being panicked into a rash appointment. Contenders for the chief execu-

tive's role know the going rate for the job and may feel they have Barclays over a barrel in agreeing terms. They might not all, however, find it easy to match Mr O'Neill's commitment. He did, after all, but £5 million of Barclay shares once his appointment was confirmed. It has turned out to be a wise investment. Enthusiasm over his recruitment sent the shares upwards; his abrupt resignation

has sent them further skywards. Mr O'Neill has now made £1 million on his stake, thanks to the market's view that Barclays now looks vulnerable to a bid. It may be that Royal Bank of Scotland will fulfil the punters' wish-



COMMENTARY by our City Editor

es, but Sir George Mathewson is a canny individual who will be in no hurry to bail out the Barclays board.

Martin Taylor's favoured part-ner. NatWest, would not even try to persuade the Monopolies Com-mission that a merger should be allowed, and overseas buyers are not rushing into the UK at the moment. The next chief executive may be wise to plead poverty when he talks terms.

Kvaerner's victims of optimism

nder the expansive Anglophile Erik Tonseth. Kvaerner long seemed too good to be true. Time and again, the Norwegian group would buy heavy engineering yards that seemed suited only for the knacker, relying on low buy-ing prices, high debt and cash-flow to make them pay. This expansive, job-saving phi-

Clyde. It made Kvaerner the big-gest shipbuilder in Europe, as well as owner of a yard in America, where they prosper under statutory protection.

Then came the great leap for-

ward by the purchase of Trafalgar House, the engineering con-glomerate whose nervous share-holders were eager to take £820 million of Norwegian cash. With one, debt-laden, bound, Kvaern-er had become a world-scale com-pany, even if badly undercapital-ised for its scale of operations.

Business historians will doubtless long argue whether Trafal-gar was the classic bid too far or if the rot spread from the old un-profitable Norwegian businesses that Mr Tönseth was trying to di-versify away from. After a huge loss and Mr Tonseth's fall last autumn, it became clear that Kvaerner was too good to be true and that waking from the dream was

going to be painful.

All involved will suffer. Share-

losophy was not confined to the holders are being asked to cough up new capital to replace heavy write-offs made under the new

boss's shrinkage plan. The Clyde may pay a heavier price. The Govan yard, its remaining big league shipbuilder, is in good shape but has few orders. That will not make it easy to sell when yards all across Europe, some with better immediate prospects, are also for sale.

European Shipbuilding is also under pressure. Last year, Kore-an and Japanese yards were neck and neck, winning a com-bined 74 per cent of orders, in terms of tonnage, against Europe's 17 per cent. And the total market shrank by a seventh. Only orders for cruise ships are booming and the UK no longer makes them on any scale. In the short term even China,

the new power in shipbuilding, is suffering from Korea's forced devaluation. In the long run, Koreans are trying to switch away from cheap tonnage and leave

tankers to China. That means moving to build ships with higher added value in which Europe-

an yards specialise. Some at least of Kvaerner's dis-carded British assets should find new owners. But their employees should beware of another optimistic new Kaverner.

The wrong kind of contrition

s commuters gulped their breakfast yesterday before rushing to the station in the hope that, at some stage, a train might appear, they may have suffered a sense of humour failure. For those who breakfast-ed to the accompaniment of Radio 4's Today programme would have heard Gerald Corbett boasting of the fine performance being achieved by Railtrack.

Those facing an indeterminate wait for a train might have con-sidered that Railtrack's acknowl-edged responsibity for the late running of 40 per cent of trains would be a cause of some embarrassment to Mr Corbett. On the contrary, however. The Railtrack chief executive gave every impression of believing that his compa-

ny was doing a good job. Mr Corbett is a positive thinker and prefers to dwell on the fact that Railtrack's performance was even worse before privatisation. That argument will not be appreciated by those commuters who know that if their own standard of performance merits just a 60 per cent score, then they will not have to worry about commuter trains for long.

Railtrack investors have pros-

pered at the expense of travellers. Mr Corbett now makes much of the £27 billion that he will be investing to improve things but results, not promises, are necessary. Tom Winsor, the new regulator, has made it clear that he will take a tough line. As an ini-tial response, Mr Corbett would be well advised to show a little

Pre-pay predicament

CONSUMERS can still beat the marketing folk, for a while. One 2 One devised a tariff using pre-payment cards to attract a new class of customer to mobile phones: people who want to be in touch but also want to be sure they do not run up big surprise bills. The promotion seemed a great success. Vast numbers signed up but the new customers have duly failed to run up huge bills, so there is no money in it for One 2 One. Naturally, the tariffs are being reorganised to confound the pesky customers.

ready confused situation. It

would be unusual for the pan-

el to force him to proceed with

Carlisle offer on Monday.

New Carlisle said last night

that Dresdner Kleinwort Ben-

son, the advisers to the inves-

tors seeking to oust four CSG

directors, had been unable to

satisfy the panel that they had

sufficient support to force through the board changes. New Carlisle is currently seek-ing to use the departure of Mr

Fowler as its reason to with-

CSG will convene an ex-

traordinary meeting of share-

holders in about two weeks.

Internet

initiative

by C&W

BY CHRIS AYRES

draw the offer.

He sought to lapse the New

an offer against his wishes.

Five vie to buy Havas's poster combine

By RAYMOND SNODDY MEDIA EDITOR

10-2head

THE £600 million bid battle for Europe's biggest outdoor advertising business has entered its closing stages with of-fers coming in for the outdoor operations of Havas, which indude Mills & Allen in the UK.

With final offers due to be in by Friday week, five compa-nies have already submitted bids of more than £500 million. The winning bid is expected to approach £600 million.

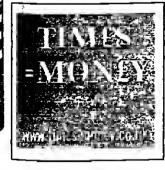
The five in the final round are: Clear Channel Communications, owner of More O'Ferrall in the UK: TDI, owned by CBS of the US and which has London Underground and bus advertising contracts in the UK; JC Decaux, the specialisi bus shelter advertising. Outdoor Systems International of the US; and Texas Pacific, a

US venture capital group. Havas, which is owned by Vivendi, formerly Generale des Eaux, put its outdoor advertising businesses up for sale in November after deciding to concentrate on publishing and multimedia activities.

The businesses being sold include companies in nine European countries, including the UK. France, Spain and Italy, as well as Sky Sites, the international airport advertising group. Havas says that it wants to sell the operations to a single buyer that must be free of regulatory problems.

If Clear Channel or TDI were to win. Mills & Allen would almost certainly have to be sold because of UK monopoly problems. Clear Channel has 26 per cent of the UK market, TDI 22 per cent and Mills & Allen 15 per cent. A manage ment buyout of Mill & Allen

would then be a possibility. The ability to buy Europe's largest outdoor advertising in a single package would be particularly attractive to Americans wanting to enter the European market.



Clarks board to ballot family and shareholders on flotation

By Sarah Cunningham RETAIL CORRESPONDENT

THE BOARD of the C&J Clark shoe group is planning to ballot members of the family that controls it to find out whether they wish to see the business floated on the Stock Exchange. Tim Parker, chief executive

of the group, which is based in Somerset, said that restructuring work was almost complete and that sales were growing fast enough for flotation to be a realistic option.

The company revealed yesthe company revealed yes-terday that sales grew 6.6 per cent last year to £792 million, leading to operating profit be-fore exceptional items of £425 million, a 7.9 per cent increase.

Roger Pedder, chairman, said: "We could float now. We have a profit record that would allow it, but we don't think the time is propitious. There have been no new lists or any for six months."

The board would need 75 per cent of shareholders to vote in favour of flotation. A secret ballot of the 5,600 shareholders has been planned and will probably take place in the second half of next year. If it receives a mandate, the board will make the final decision on the timing of a flotation. The 400 Clarks family members control 68 per cent of the

group's equity. Mr Parker said: "From a company point of view we don't need cash. We don't need to be a public company. It is a



Best foot forward: Tim Parker, chief executive of C&J Clark, who described a stock market listing as a realistic option

shareholder issue and is primarily about liquidity." Mr Pedder said: "Although

we are agnostic because it is a shareholder matter, if we are going to be a world player and in a couple of years we will be 50-50 UK and non-UK

sales - we may need to float." Restructuring costs last year, including the closure of three factories in the UK and the sale of the Australian retail

business, cost £33 million. Mr Parker said that he did not expect to see further large

restructuring charges this year. The best performance last year came from the Clarks and K retail chains, which saw like-for-like sales increase of 11.2 per cent. US operating profits dropped from £11 mil-

of tough trading conditions, and the 190-shop retail business is being trimmed back. Nonetheless, Mr Parker said that C&J Clark was now looking at acquisition opportunities, particularly in the US and continental Europe.

Ashcroft seeks to withdraw offer for CSG

BY PAUL DURMAN

MICHAEL ASHCROFT, the at CSG has complicated an alwealthy financier, is seeking to withdraw his £250 million takeover offer for Corporate Services Group, after three directors of the troubled employment company yesterday bowed to shareholder pres-

sure to resign.
It appears the Takeover Panel is considering forcing Mr Ashcroft to proceed with the offer, even though it was made on condition that there were no changes to the CSG board. Mr Ashcroft is on holiday, apparently having abandoned in-

ierest in CSG.
The Panel and Mr Ashcroft's advisers at Rea Brothers are disputing whether it is reasonable for him to withdraw the offer solely on the basis of board changes.

New Carlisle, the bid vehimerger of Mr Ashcroft's Nasdag and AIM-listed interests. continued to pursue its interest in CSG even after Jeffrey Fowler resigned as its chair-man last Thursday.

Ralph Hulbert, who replaced Mr Fowler as chairman, Tim Holland-Bosworth and Ronald de Young also agreed to resign yesterday. The directors were opposed by CSG investors claiming to own more than 60 per cent of the group, but they had delayed resigning in case that should threaten Mr Ashcroft's offer.

CABLE & WIRELESS is to invest \$670 million (£420 million) in the US Internet business it bought from MCI WorldCom last year, in a bid to stop customers defecting to rival networks. The investment, which Mr Ashcroft's intervencion

C&W says will create "the industry's fastest, high-capacity Internet network backbone", comes amid a bitter legal battle between C&W and MCI. The British company is accusing MCI of breaking various agreements related to the \$1.75 billion sale of its Inter-net assets. C&W yesterday insisted that its investment in the US had nothing to do with that spat but admitted that it needed to invest heavily to stop customers moving to rival networks.

City analysts applauded the investment. Jim McCaf-ferty, of SG Securities. said: "It shows that C&W is being a bit more pro-active on the Internet front."

C&W will buy 15,000 miles of so-called "dark fibre" from Level 3 Communications, which will run between 50-plus metropolitan areas. The fibre is "dark" because it has been put in the ground, but not yet plugged into a live network.

Allied Domecq puts for sale sign over John Bull

BY DOMINIC WALSH

ALLIED DOMECQ, the Beef-eater Gin and Firkin pubs group, has hoisted a for sale sign over John Bull, its international pub franchise business, as part of a shake-up of its troubled retailing arm. The decision to sell John

Bull, which has almost 60 pubs in 14 countries, follows a profit warning in January that has wiped more than EI billion from Allied's stock market value. Worse than expected trading from its pubs side was blamed and the company has been conducting a review of the whole business.

John Bull, which was launched in 1990, offers franchisees a quick-build Victorian

pub design, which is claimed to recreate "the ambience of

the warmth and sociability of the best of British tradition". However, it is being seen as a distraction at a time when the company needs to focus on its 3,600 UK pubs, ranging from Firkin and Big Steak managed houses to Vanguard tenancies.
As part of the shake-up of

its internacional retailing arm, the five Firkin pubs opened in Holland and France over the past three years have been subsumed into the UK management structure. The group denied suggestions that the five units had been put up for sale. In the UK, the company is reported to be revamping its Firkin chain, moving it away from the youth and student market, while making the concept more attractive to women. The first new-look Firkin is in Cheltenham. It is understood that some Firkin pubs will be debranded.

News of the shake-up comes at a time of heightened specula-tion of a possible demerger of Allied's retailing arm from its spirits division. Although the group has played down the rumours, it has always accepted that a demerger was one of the options at its disposal. It also denied recent reports that its Vanguard operation was being touted around the market.

Law changes 'needed on mis-selling'

lion to £9.2 million as a result

THE consumer arm of the Financial Services Authority bas captioned that the protection of the public from further mis-selling will be un-dermined unless changes are made to legislation (Gavin Lumsden writes).

Barbara Saunders, chairwoman of the FSA's Consumer Panel, yesterday told the parliamentary committee examining the Financial Services and Markets Bill that the Bill's general principle that "consumers should take responsibility for their own decisions" should be removed. She said a clause should be introduced requiring financial products to be satisfactory and suitable.

Hopes of £2bn bid for Laporte vanish

By PAUL DURMAN

THE hopes of a £2 billion bid for Laporte were dashed yesterday, a day after the specialty chemicals company announced it was in takeover talks. After Laporte said the talks

had ended yesterday morning. its shares slid back 95p to 667 p, having jumped by nearly 30 per cent on Monday. Analysis blamed the collapse of the deal on Hoechst. the German chemicals group that owns 45 per cent of Clariant, the Swiss company identi-fied as the bidder for Laporte. Hoechst is seeking its own merger with Rhone-Poulenc of France, a deal that will create one of the world's largest phar-

maceutical groups However, industry sources

planation. They said Clariant has adequate financial resources to buy Laporte without recourse to Hoechst, whose voting rights are in any case restricted to 10 per cent. It was also suggested Laporte's talks with Clariant did not founder on difficulties over price, strategy, personality or regulatory issues. It is understood Laporte felt unable to rescue the deal once Clariant signalled it had problems proceeding.

cast doubt on the Hoechst ex-

Laporte, significantly shaped by Jim Leng, its chief executive, over the past few years, is now seen as being in play. and could attract other offers.

Tempus, page 26



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THE London market opened

on a supercharged note yester-

day after Wall Street scaled

new heights on Monday. The

New York sentiment com-

bined with the release of

strong US retail sales data lai-

er in the day to drive the FTSE

100 index to another record

high of 6,513.1 points, up 71.9.

two biggest surprises of the

day. First it revealed that

Michael O'Neill, its new chief

executive, had quit for health

reasons. Then its stock rallied

to finish 46p higher on the day

Analysts said the sector was

benefiting from the improving

outlook for the UK economy.

backed by Monday's robust

high street spending figures from the British Retail Consor-

tium, and from speculation of

Lloyds TSB, 39tep higher at

£10.60, extended Monday's

strong run amid rumours that

the UK's biggest bank was

searching for acquisitions on

the Continent or in the US.

Royal Bank of Scotland put

on 4.55 per cent to £14.25 and

Abbey National was up 39p to

track attracted strong criti-cism in a report published by

the Rail Regulator, lts stock

fell 24p to £13.55. The report

said the rail infrastructure

company was failing to re-

solve problems with train de-

lays, signalling schemes and

Shares in Dewhirst Group.

the supplier of clothing and toi-

letries to Marks & Spencer,

were marked higher in after-

noon trading amid specula-

tion that the group could re-

ceive a bid at 120p per share

within the next five days. Its

shares were up 5½p to 92p.

Last week the company report-

ed pre-tax profits for the year

to January 15, 1999, of £23 mil-

lion, down from £31.4 million

The brewers enjoyed a good

day, with the presentation giv-

en to analysts by Scottish & Newcastle, 27p higher at 674p.

on Friday boosting the entire

Shares in Bass rose 33p to

8774p, amid suggestions that

Granada Group. 50p higher

bid for the brewing and hotels group. However, analysts dis-

missed the story, arguing that

Granada's priority was to buy

the year before.

stadon improvements.

The performance of Rail-

further consolidation.

at £19.19.

Barclays Bank provided the

STOCK MARKET

an international contract cater-

1 '487'-9 Re Amuso (1-1958) Re Steel (1-1958) Re



Wall St shows London

Chris Gent, chief executive of Vodafone, up 9p to £12.12 after good news on its merger with Airtouch Co

ing group such as Aramark of the US or Sodexho, the French group that owns Gardner Merchant. Whitbread, 30%p better at 97812p, was also lifted by

the general positive senoment. Portsmouth & Sunderland. the newspaper group that is the subject of multiple takeover attempts from Johnston Press.

Johnston disclosed that it had bought a further 2.4 per cent to take its holding to 17.4 per cent. All three suitors have to wait for a Competition Commission ruling expected in the first week of June. There is speculation that Johnston wants to build its stake to 24.99 per cent, the regulatory limit for a me-

SAEED SHAH

The telecoms sector recov-

gained 50p to £17.50p, after UNDER-PERFORMING PACKAGING 220 200 Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb Mar Apr

ENCOURAGING results from Jefferson Smurfit, up 16p to 142p yesterday, were achieved thanks to a buoyant US market. The UK packaging environment remains difficult and is likely to remain so for some time. especially for those in the sec-

tor serving manufacturers. The fundamentals have been weak for months, with the strength of sterling and weighing down. However. packaging companies have enjoyed better valuations recently as a result of bid spec-

COMMODITIES

ulation. Consolidation is in full swing in the sector. With six companies snapped up by foreign predators in less than nine months - Tinsley Robor, Wace, Field, Sidlaw, Porter Chadburn and Crest - everyone is oo the lookout for

the next target. Law & Bonar, unchanged at 1831/p, and David S Smith, 10p ahead at with some recent recovery in prices, current valuations present some good quality assets to be had.

ered some poise after getting caught in the gloom on Monday. Vodafone Groop gained 9p to £12.12, after receiving the clearance from the US Internal Revenue Service, allowing its \$58 billion merger with Air-Touch Communications to proceed on a tax-free basis. Telewest Communications edged up 3½p to 293½p, Orange rose 2p to 927½p and JWE Telecom gained 5p to 165p:

Other telecoms gainers included BT, 3p ahead at £10.75, Eneris, 28p up at £18.60 and Cable & Wireless, 21/2p higher, after it revealed that it is investing \$607 million in the US to develop the next generation high capacity Internet network.

Telecoms groups which failed to follow suit included COLT Telecom, 19p down at 1201p, and Securicor, owner of 40 per cent of BT Celinet,

was 6p lower at 5621/p. Financial company London Pacific Group soared 79 per cent to 3931/2p on hopes that a raft of forthcoming IPOs of private Internet stocks in which it has invested will significantly enhance its net asset value.

Strong figures from Tesco saw Britain's biggest supermar-ket jump 9p to 169p. The compa-ny saw the biggest percentage share gain of the day amid brisk trading that saw 56.5 million stocks change hands. Buyers continued their mi-

gration back into Marks & Spencer's shares on the back of increasingly positive senti-ment about the company. It gained 14p to 429p. Dixons shed 22p to £15.42 on profit-taking, following the huge gains on Monday after it

announced that it was consid-

ering floating Freeserve, its Internet service provider. Malberry, the luxury goods retailer, saw its shares fall a costly 2p to 32p after warning that losses for the year would be worse than anticipated. ☐ GILT-EDGED: Gilts were caught up in general global

bond market weakness vesterday, and ended lower in thin trading, with most market players now looking ahead to a slew of UK ecocomic data next week. The June series of the long gilt closed down 27p at £118.00, while among conventional issues, Treasury 7 per cent 2002 shed 12p to £106.47 □ NEW YORK: Positive economic news helped to boost Wall Street. At midday the Dow Jones industrial average was up 33.57 to 10373.08.

..... 1671S 10 (+207.76) Hong Kong: Hang Seng Amsterdam: Frankfort Singapore: Arussels: .3327.75 (+4.16) BE1.20 Paris. Zurich: SMI Index London: .. 5592.4 (+33.5 FTSE 250 3088 6 / + 31 8 _3035.38 (+39.04) _2996.25 (+29.90) _2984.31 (+24.91) FTSE AH-Share FTSE Non Financials FTSE Fixed Interest . FTSE GOM Secs I 129.6n 103.2 (+0.5)

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RECENT ISSUES - 10

Holmes Place n/p (275) MAJOR CHANGES

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RISES:			
Stock Scapa	Close	Ching	Ching%
Scapa	144	+ 27	+ 23.0
Ranger	27414	+ 314	+ 13.0
Smurfit (Jett)	142	+ 16	+ 12,6
Ruberoid.		+ 10	+ 12.2
Statiware	290	+ 25	+ 9.4
		+ 274	+ 9.3
Sappi Friendly Hotels	_14712	+ 1272	+ 92
Smith David	.123	+ 10	+ 8.8
Scotia		+ 10	+ 8.6
St James Place		+ 2112	+ 8.3
Bodycole		+ 64	+ '7.9
Br Steel	.13912	+ 104	+ 7.9
Air Partner		+ t212	+ 6.6
General Mr		+325	+ 6.1
Kewill Sys		+ 8712	+ 6.1
Br Polythene	.34712	+ 20	+ 6.1
AMVESCAP		+ 38	+ 6.0
Charler		+ 2112	+ 5.9
Impala Plat	118114	+ 65%	+ 5.8

TEMPUS -

Value to shout about

petitive nature of chemicals -

A buyer may find more of

FTSE All-share

the supermarket sector vesterday with the publication of its annual results. It now controls nearly 16 per cent of the UK grocery market and is making significant inroads in the clothing, entertainment and electronics markets. II is big, too. Annual sales rose by 4.3 per cent last year, equal to a cool El billion. Sales have more

than doubled in the past six years. With the Competition Commission breathing down the industry's collective neck, it may appear foolhardy to invest in any supermarket stock just now. Even without the regulatory concerns, grocers face fierce compedition among themselves. Furthermore, onshore growth opportunioes are limited.

But while worries are justified elsewhere in the sector, investors should not be put off Tesco. It outclasses its UK competitors. Achieving

TESCO reaffirmed its status as the class act of 4 per cent like-for-like sales growth when the sector manages just 1.5 per cent is no mean achievement. Moreover, there is scope for its market share to grow further through the expansion of its Internet shopping service, the addition of non-food items in its larger superstores, and the opening of new Tesco Extra hy. permarkets and small format Tesco Metros. Tesco also has the most convincing strategy for developing overseas. It is the only British supermarket that is coming close to entering the international league made up of the likes of Wal-mart. Carrefour and Ahold.

The contrast with J Sainsbury, which is expected to deliver some very poor trading figures on Friday, could not be starker. And while Tesco shares are more expensive than Sainsbury's, the difference is more than merited. Buy Tesco shares.

welcome the opportunity to

extricate himself from grisly

the share price from 667 p.

Holders hold. Nimble inves-

quick turn by buying in now.

ANY LAPORTE IN A STORM

more exciting industry.

Laporte

even at the theoretically add-LAPORTE'S takeover discussions lasted barely 24 hours ed value specialty end means, however, that Laporte - at least as far as the stockshareholders can expect a demarket was officially aware. cent return only if the compa-Clariant's rumoured interest ny is taken out. in Laporte may bave been scuppered by Hoechst, which interest in Laporte than the owns 45 per cent. Hoechst market does. Jim Leng, may have feared that Clari-Laporte's ambitious chief exant's expanion plans could have complicated its merger with Rhone Poulenc. But while the talks have come to nothing this time, it seems likely that Laporte will suc-

comb to takeover. Shareholders will hope that they are put out of their misery sooner rather than later. The price of the shares more than halved last year and did little more than meander for the five years previous to that. In the past six months, belped by a moderate improvement in trading prospects and latterly by the takeover talk, the

Scapa Group

THERE are few easier ways to please the market these days than to sell any business that is even remotely connected to paper and packaging. Scapa Group experienced this first-hand vesterday when its beleaguered shares numbed 23 per cent after it said it was selling its paper products division for £329

Part of the rise came because the sale price came in at a level greater than the entire market capitalisation of Scapa, at Monday's closing price. But the fact that Scapa no longer needs to be concerned about the excess capacity and falling margins that afflict the paper and packaging industry is a blessing. The sale will eliminate

debt, fund a 50p special divicash equal to about 40p a share. A further 15p a share could be generated from the planned sale of the compa-

0 N 0 J F M A M J J A S O N O J F M A ny's specialty materials group, which Scapa hopes to complete within several

months. The company's remaining technical tapes business can be valued at about 65p a share using a conservative price/earnings muldple of 11 times. These assumptions lead to a total valuation of 170p a share, which in turn is 18 per cent above yesterday's closing price of 144p.

To the bull story can be added the promising organic growth opportunities for the tapes business in North America and the ability to spend up to £80 million on acquisitions. Buy.

Pressac

PRESSAC needed its big acquisition last year to save it from blushing yesterday. Without the benefit of the acgrowth at the interim stage would have looked sickly. The source of the discom-

fort in the ongoing business

was a fall in sales to the automotive industry, thanks in large part to the disruptions at General Motors. Pressac says that these sales have been delayed rather than lost entirely — and there is no reason to dispute that. But the dependence on acquisitions remains a worry. The shares

fell 5 per cent yesterday. That said, this company has plenty of potential. It has cleverly identified that while car manufacturing is hard business, it can thrive supplying high-specification car parts which enhance, in an obvious and consumer-friendly way, manufacturers' products. Pressac also has growing exposure to the ever-exciting telecorns sector, too.

Tempus recommends that a decent number of Pressac shares be accumulated. But shareholders need to keep a close eve on the performance of the company, and their holdings.

EDITED BY ROBERT COLE

WALL STREET

LIFFE	ICIS-LOR (London 6.00pm)	GNE LONDON GRAIN FUTURES	Perio
COCOA	CRUDE OILS (\$/barrel FOB)	LIFFE WHEAT LIFFE BARLEY	Long Gilt Jan 91
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M 795-793 Sep 919-910	Brent 15 day (May) 15 15 +0 30	Jul	5-Year Gitt Jun 9
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LONDON: FINANCIAL FUTURES

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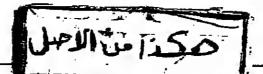
stock has perked up. The com- ecutive. may also privately larsetn chemicals to seek a role in a Any which way, Laporte is clearly in play and there is every reason to hope for a rise in tors may even hope to make a

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The state of the s

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n the face of it, the first 100 days of the euro have thrown up many dramatic surprises. In all important respects, however, the past three months have been entirely predict-

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RTE IN A STORM IN

L GRAFETT

Many anticipated that the euro would be a strong currency in its early days, bolstered by massive flows of investment funds out of the dollar and backed by a European Central Bank that would keep a tight grip on monetary policy to build up its credibility. However, the euro has been more or less permanently weak.

This is not a surprise. It was evident, even as the single currency was born, that Europe was suffermg just like others from the implosion of demand in emerging mar-kets. Weak economies tend to result in weak currencies: that is the beauty of floating exchange rates, designed as they are to act as a natural restorative when things go badly.

Far from helping to bolster the euro, the refusal to cut rates by the ECB until it was far too late, again predictably, was counterproduc-

Euro woes should come as no surprise

tive. When economies become as evidently weak as parts of euroiand - particularly Germany have become a policy of tight money undermines, rather than bolsters, the currency.

What we have discovered about the euro over the past 100 days is that it goes up and down according to economic circumstances. It is not unusually gifted just because of the weight of parental expectation at its birth. It is, in short. a currency like any other. The current period of weakness is no more proof of the euro's failure than a bout of strength would have signified its success.

Some are shocked and dismayed by the evident weakness in the German economy. They should not be. The vulnerability of an uncompetitive Germany in the face of failing world demand was perfectly obvious before the euro was launched. It is now common

currency (excuse the pun) to talk about the explosive possibility of Germany having to leave EMU some way down the road in order to rebuild its competitiveness. Like Britain with the exchange-rate mechanism, it looks as if Germany has fixed its currency at far too ambitious a level, but cannot devalue.

Germany is doing its best to squeeze through another emergency exit by pushing the case for wage harmonisation (as well as tax harmonisation). It knows that it cannot persuade its partners to inflate their wages to German levels out of kindness. So it is, with breathtaking chutzpah, trying to push through wage equalisation by arguing, quite speciously, that this is necessary to make monetary union and the single market work. The truth is that if Germany is to

get out of the hole it has dug itself (or that has lovingly been prepared for it by Paris), it has to undertake



serious structural reform of its economy, and fast. Some optimists saw the dramatic departure of Oskar Lafontaine as the necessary removal of an important burdle to reform. However, there is little sign that Hans Eichels is any more likely to dismantle the European social welfare state or reform labour markets than his predecessor.

In a pamphlet published by New Europe, the lobby group, next week, Professor Sir James

Ball says: "The need for sweeping deregulation in Europe as a critical factor in obtaining maximum benefit from the single currency remains unrecognised officially at the highest levels."

So the economics of euroland look as alarming as ever, but what about the politics? The past three months have confirmed that the European Commission, unelected and unaccountable, was riddled with bad management and sleaze. The fact that the whole Commission was forced to resign and the fact that Romani Prodi this week took a scheduled flight to London and rode a London taxi rather than a limousine does not necessarily signify an effective clean-up of Europe's civil service. New Europe would warmly welcome recent events if that were the case.

Since the euro was launched, at least one thing has become clearer. The single currency was al-

Olympics.

their association with the

Payne admits that the Syd-

ney Games is about £100 mil-

lion short of its sponsorship

target, and given that the

games are only 15 months

away this shortfall is now un-

likely to be made up. Howev-

er, Payne says the target was

always unrealistic, having

been increased by the Austral-

ian government twice after

Sydney met previous targets.

from sponsorship and broad-casting, but before ticket sales,

is running at around A\$2 bil-

lion (about £800 million) for

Sydney," says Payne, "This is close to what was raised with

2002, again there is a shortfall running into hundreds of millions of

dollars - and again Payne says it not the IOC's fault. He

points out that US\$500 million

(about £315 million) has been

raised in sponsorship and

US\$750 million in broadcast in-

come - double the amount for

the last winter Games at Nagano. "Where are they spending

much of it has gone back to IOC members in "gifts". Both

the Sydney and Salt Lake City

Games have been tarnished be-

cause of the background to how

the cities secured the Olympics.

However Payne argues that

previous Olympics suffered

worse problems - such as dop-

ing scandals, terrorist attacks

and boycotts - yet were suc-

cessful. "If the games are good, most of this will be forgotten,"

he daims, perhaps more in

hope than expectation.

the money?" he asks.

s for the Salt Lake

City winter Games in

ticket sales for Atlanta."

The total amount raised

Horse for a United States of Europe, but at least that is now an openly stated aim.

Newcomers Herr Eichels and Signor Prodi are unashamed federalists. A majority of British peo-ple do not like the idea of a federal Europe and, jodging from conver-sations I have had since New Europe was launched, this opinion has only hardened since January I. However, the new candour at least shows the British people more clearly what they will be vot-ing for if they vote to join the single currency.

Would that Tony Blair and his Government were courageous enough to admit this reality and let the British people have an honest debate about whether this is what it wants or not. If Mr Blair wants to be at the heart of a federal Europe, why doesn't he have the courage of his convictions and

say so? He is entitled to his view like the rest of us.

This is the most important question determining the future identity of our nation. Yet the Govern-ment slyly obfuscates the choice to be made and pro-curo voices trivi-alise the single currency question, telling us, inter alia, that because we eat pasta and enjoy going to Tuscany on boliday, we can safely glide over all the complex and painful realities of life in euroland.

By doing so, they feed suspicion of the grand European project felt by many British sceptics, and amplify calls in some quarters to give up on Europe altogether - and that is not what most of us want. The euro was pushed through in much of Europe without proper discussion, and many ordinary people are already regretting that. Whatever the ultimate outcome. let us do better than this in Britain.

Janel Bush is director of New Europe, the anti-single currency lobby group. European Single Currency A Bad Idea is available for £5 from New Europe, 52 Walnut Tree Walk, London SEII 6DN.

Marketing man's Olympian feat of crisis management

BUSINESS

By Jason Nisse

any people have difficult jobs. difficult jobs.
One would not Like to be a recruitment consultant for Barclays or a spin-doctor for Saddam Hussein. However, few can have had a more difficult time over the past few months than Michael Payne, the marketing director of the International Olympic Committee. The 41-year-old Englishman

has had a crash course in crisis management. It started when the Asian economic crisis spilled over into the Australian economy, so bringing the jitters to sponsors, broadcasters and suppliers for the Sydney Games, which take place

Then the IOC had a public puter giant that has been an Olympic sponsor for more than 40 years — over the costs of technology for the Salt Lake City winter Games in 2002. IBM claimed that the IOC wanted too much technology for too little money, while Payne said that IBM's terms would have bankrupted the Sali Lake Games. The result was that IBM's relationship with the

IOC "was terminated". That had hardly calmed down when stories began to emerge about gifts being given to IOC by the organising committees of cities wanting to host the Olympics. This led to a chorus of calls for the resignations of a large proportion of the Games' governing body, including the President, Juan Anionio Samaranch.

Last month the IOC acted to defuse the crisis. Ten committee members were either fired or resigned; an ethics committee was set up with independent members including Javier Perez de Cuellar, the former UN Secretary-General, and



Worthy of a medal: Michael Payne, the IOC's marketing director, has been dogged by problems at almost every turn

Howard Baker, the former White House chief of staff; the 1OC decided it would issue aua multibillion-dollar organisation; and a reform commission called IOC 2000 and boasting such luminaries as Henry Kissinger and Peter Ueberroth, who ran the Los Angeles games in 1984, was formed.

And just as the dust settles

and Payne sets out from his office in Lucerne to sell the IOC's plan to the most difficult audience of all - the business community which has invested around £10 billion in the Olympics over the past two decades - he faces the rug being pulled from underneath him. A US Senator, John McCain, has proposed a motion in that the IOC's tax-exempt status be withdrawn. should McCain has argued that the endemic corruption of the IOC, if not reformed, makes it unworthy of the tax advantages it enjoys. Taking away the IOC's tax-exempt status could increase the costs of sponsoring the Olympics by 40 per cent — no doubt making many

organisations think again.

The motion is being debated

today and though Payne claims be is confident that the US Senate will reject McCain's the matter. "Of our 11 partners the core sponsors of the Olympics, who pay a minimum of £30 million each games for the honour), nine are US based." says Payne. "If the Senate created this tax situation, it would pet US corporations at a disadvantage to European or Japanese companies. I don't think this would be popular in the

ayne has decided against travelling to Washington for the de-bate. As the the deep bags beneath his eyes testify. he has enough on his plate. His biggest headache at the moment is in the form of an urbane, outspoken insurance salesman called David D'Ales-

business community."

sandro. D'Alessandro is the president and chief executive officer of the John Hancock Mutual Life Insurance Company of Boston, one of the US's largest financial groups and an IOC partner. He is also a vocal critic of what has been going on at the IOC, calling for President Samaranch's resig-nation and that of Phil Coles, a member of both the IOC and Sydney games who admitted that his ex-wife had received jewellery from people associated with Athens' unsuccessful bid for the 1996 Games. (Both are still in office.)

While other sponsors have either been silent or - in the case of Kodak, at least - supportive the IOC's reforms, Mr D'Alessandro has taken the Olympic rings off John Hancock's advertising and literature and has threatened to hold back payments, arguing that corporate sponsors would be tainted by association with an organisation that did not have dean hand. "They lied to us." Mr D'Alessandro said in an interview late last month. "They told us the scandal would be put behind us. But their version of the reform doesn't appear to be anybody else's."

Payne does not want to be caught in a slanging match with one of his sponsors, but he indicates that D'Alessandro may be grandstanding, while taking a less abrasive line behind the scenes. "No sponsor

has withdrawn and no sponsor has asked to renegotiate its terms," Payne asserts. "We volved in sponsoring the Olympics in one form or another. Only one company out of those 40 has chosen to speak out."

Indeed, in the midst of all this uproar, Payne has been able to sign a series of new sponsorship deals.

The first was with Sema, the Anglo-French group which took over at least part of IBM's role as technology partner. Another technology partner - ru-moured to be Sun Microsystems - is due to be announced in the next few weeks, which would leave one vacancy, as the IBM role has been split into three to make the task more manageable.

Coca-Cola and Time Warner have both signed on as partners for another four years, and Payne claims he is close to announce deal with four more partners. Kodak and UPS are almost certain to resign and with most sponsorship experts certain John Hancock will walk away, the key will be whether Visa International and McDonalds continue BUSINESS LETTERS

Firms with rates problems need to take prompt action provides an opportunity for

From Mr Bruce Jones

Sir, I feel it necessary to write to correct a wrong impression that might have been drawn by your readers from the article which appeared on April 6 un-der the headline "Companies urged to appeal against rates".

The article seems to suggest that there is something inherently wrong with the majority of rating assessments and that firms should therefore appeal against them. I have no means of checking the figures quoted by Fletcher King in respect of appeals that they have been involved in. I can, however, tell you that reductions in total rateable value as a result of settled appeals amount to considerably less than half of the 17 per cent quoted.

If firms are concerned to do something to get their rates bill right, the current review being undertaken of rateable values to take effect from 2000

need to do is to make sure that we at the Valuation Office have any relevant information about their rents now rather than waiting until the new rating lists come into force on April 1, 2000. Ratepayers should respond to requests for information

ratepayers to avoid the appeal

process altogether. What they

promptly and carefully, and if they are in any doubt as to what is required the local valuation officer, whose telephone number appears on all correspondence, will be pleased to help. It is in everyone's interests to make sure that the new rating assessments are right first time.

Yours faithfully BRUCE JONES. Director Business Development, Valuation Office Agency. New Court, Carey Street, London, WC2A 2JE.

were developed.

Pep deadlines should be reviewed

From Mr Barry Tuckwood Sir. Despite allowing ample time for delivery, I in common with thousands of others, have had contributions to personal equity plans returned because of delivery delays combined with the ruling of the Inland Revenue that Pep providers ters as evidence of the date of sending. Overall the delay and this ruling must have prevent-

of pounds. This was not, surely, the intention of the (then) Chancellor when the rules on Peps

ed the investment of milbons

The current Chancellor should review this situation as a matter of extreme urgency. Yours faithf BARRY TUCKWOOD, 75 Lower Camden, Chislehurst, BR7 5JD.

Tax bracket

From Mr John Deas Sir, The Government seems to think that a tax by any other name will smell sweeter. The detailed terms of Lloyds Bank's share individual savings account state that interest on any cash balance will be credited "net of a 20 per cent, non-reclaimable Inland Revenue charge, which is levied by the Government as part of the Isa regulations". So that's all right — it's still tax free, then! Yours faithfully.

JOHN DEAS, 5 Woolaston Drive, Alsager, Stoke-on-Trent, ST7 2PL.

Fare play

PETER HAMBRO, a wellknown name in gold circles and scion of the merchant banking family, is starting a pressure group for businessmen aggrieved by falling standards on British Airways. Hambro, who has mines in

Siberia and southern France and is a regular flyer, says the service on BA has "gone to hell" since the ever-popular Robert Ayling took over the

He is trying to recruit mem-bers for the BA Full Fare-Paying Passengers Association. Hambro is far from the first person to complain - BA has



Another day . . . another

run into regular flak for poor service. A recent experience was typical, he says. "I paid £440 for a round trip

to Paris," he says. "When I got to the checkout on my way home, the lady there was hopelessly rude. I said: 'Mr Ayling wouldn't like that', and she said: 'I don't care. I hate Mr

A fax to Ayling elicited no response. They don't seem to care at all about the businessman who is a regular traveller," he says.

WELCOMING yesterday's deal with RJB. Graham Brown of National Power said it provided "flexible and secure coal supplies in an increasingly competitive mar-

John Battle, Energy Minis-

ter and in Venezuela at the time, thought the deal provided "flexible and secure coal..." And sa on. It is beyond belief that both men said the same thing simultaneously. an ocean apart, so it must have been scripted by the government spin-doctors. One expects this sort of thing from politicians, but they really should be told by the likes of National Power 10 keep their soundbites to themselves



Hat trick

I AM normally pretty immune to the London Marathon, but one banker has found a novel way of raising money this weekend. Tom Attwood at mezzanine finance house Internediare Capital Group is auctioning the logo on his running hat, the cash to go to Children with Leukaemia. Bids, now running into four figures, close

on Friday afternoon. Francis Mackay of Compass and Granada's Gerry Robinson have already been outbid by Cinven's Robin Hall

Attwood, 46, has never run before and started training in January. I ask how long he expects to take. "About four and a half hours." Blimey, Tom, I could walk it in that

Bank error A FORMER Lazards banker

is favourite to succeed the disgraced Edith Cresson at the European Commission in Brussels. Anne Lauvergeon took over in 1991 from Jacques Attali as François Mitterand's right hand and was headhunted by the Paris office of Lazards four years later.

She does not seem to have enjoyed the experience and lasted about two years. Oddly enough, no one at Lazards today can think of much to say about the tenure there of someone who is about to become one of the most powerful women in France.

SHAREHOLDERS at Corporate Services Group have finally persuaded their board to stand down. One director is Tîm Holland-Bosworth

Back in 1992 Holly-Bolly, as he is known, was at Kleinwort Benson working for Alan Sugar in the latter's bid to take Amstrad private on the

Holly-Bolly upset the institutions when he admitted that Kleinwort stood to gain substantial fees if this was successful. Some unkind souls even suggested that this called the independence of Kleinwort's advice into question.

The coincidence has not been missed by some of those same institutional investors who find themselves ranged up against him again today.

Hurt feeling HARVEY WEINSTEIN, one

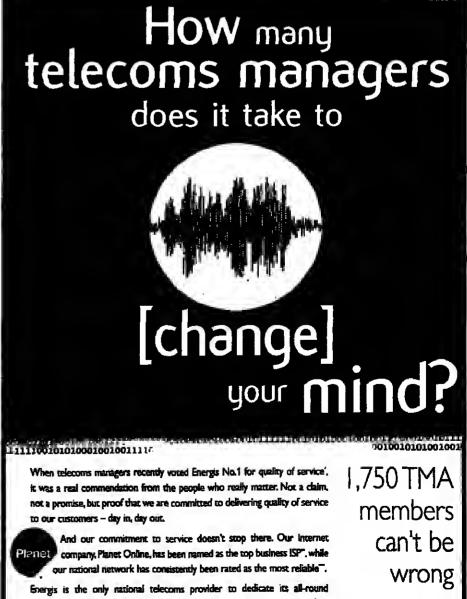
of the two star moguls behind Miramax, maker of Shakespeare in Love, came barrelling out of the Savoy yesterday surrounded by an asteroid belt of acolytes and flunkeys.
"Get me out of here!" Wein-

stein shouted to one. He then, quite unaware, swept past John Hurt, who was having a quiet coffee. Surely you remember Alien? The Elephant Man? They have short memories in Hollywood.

> MARTIN WALLER city.diary@the-times.co.uk



Harvey Weinstein: Brief non-encounter at the Savoy



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Scapa sells division for £329m in revamp

By Paul Armstrong

SCAPA GROUP, the manufacturer of industrial products. vesterday unveiled a comprehensive restructuring involving the £329 million sale of its core paper businesses and plans to off-load a second

The moves will enable 5capa to focus solely on its technical tape operations, for which it says that growth pros-pects are far brighter than those for its operations in the hard-hit paper industry.

Announcing the sale, Scapa

said that the performance of its paper division, which generates more than half the company's profit, would have continued to deteriorate under its

ownership.
The company expects the sale to fund a special dividend of 50p a share after eliminating the company's remaining debt of £130 million.

David Dunn, chief executive, said that Scapa also planned to sell its speciality materials division within a lew months, possibly leading to a second return to its shareholders.

Mr Dunn said that the tapes businesses were generating a return on capital of about 30



per cent, compared with 15 per cent for the paper divison.

Scapa's paper division, which makes paper clothing for specialist industries and services the rolls in paper machines, was responsible for the company's initial develop-

However, Mr Dunn said that the industry was suffering from excess capacity and needed to follow the pattern of consolidation adopted by its customers in the paper and packaging industry.

He said that Voith, the family-owned German paper company that is buying the businesses, was better placed to cope with the challenges facing the industry.
This is a mature business.

it is not a growth business," Mr Dunn said. "The paper companies want to do a better job for themselves and put price pressure on their

Investors responded imme-diately to news of the payout, marking up Scapa shares by 27p to 144p.

The stock slid from 220p in June to a 12-month low of 901/2p in January on the back of the tough trading condi-tions being suffered by the pa-

Mr Dunn said yesterday that the environment remained difficult and was not expected to improve in the Shareholders will be asked

to approve the sale on May 5,

and the dividend is expected to be paid in early July.

Tempus, page 26



RUGBY ESTATES, the property manager and investor which has more than a third of its portfolio in London's Covent Garden, said the property market, especially in the capital, is at last showing signs of stability. The company chaired by David Tye, above left with Andrew Wilson, his chief executive, reported a more than doubling in pre-

tax profits to £8.2 million, thanks largely to joint venture disposals during the year. For the 12 months to January 31 earnings per share came in at 30.7p (13.8p) and the com-pany is paying total dividends for the year of 2.9lp, a rise of 10 per cent. The net asset value rose 11 per cent to 211p per share. The share price, however, fell 8½p to 176½p.

Peter Black able to walk tall after 15% profits rise

By MATTHEW BARBOUR

PETER BLACK, the maker of yesterday proved itself to be one of the few suppliers currently benefiting from close ties with Marks & Spencer after unveiling a 15 per cent rise in full-year profits.

The group, which specifically supplies shoes and accesso-ries to M&S, also said that it expects trade with the retailing giant to increase over the com-ing year. A number of clothing suppliers to M&S, which issued a profits warning after a disastrous autumn, have an nounced job cuts. Peter Black, however, provides products in which M&S has only a 10 per cent market share, as opposed to clothing, where M&S has a share of up to 35 per cent.

Stephen Lister, chief executive, said: "We sell 45 per cent of our products to M&S, a figure we hope will grow. They can't and won't give more space to clothing and so we're in a totally different position to the textile people."

For the year to January 31, the group reported pre-tax profits of £21.8 million (£16.2 million) on sales up 13 per cent at £196 million.

Mr Lister said that as well as diversifying away from producing slippers and plastic bags, about 60 per cent of production is now sourced from outside the UK, with factories in India, Italy and Thailand.

Black's figures were also lift-ed by the inclusion of Ferrosan UK, a maker of herbal remedies, which contributed £18.5 million of sales. With interest cover of ten times and low gearing, Mr Lister said the group is on the lookout for further acquisitional growth opportunities.

On adjusted earnings per share of 23.6p (21.4p) there is a final dividend of 3.25p, raising the full-year dividend 10 per cent on a pro-rata basis.

BUSINESS ROTHOTE

Severn Trent calls for price increases

SEVERN TRENT has proposed a 5 per cent cut in water bills next year, but said that prices would have to rise over the following four to pay for the Government's clean-up programme. Severn Trent yesterday said that after an initial £11 off for the average customer, bills would have to rise by 1.5 per cent per annum above inflation from 2001 to 2005 to finance an investment programme of £2.3 billion.

The company, which supplies eight million people in the Midlands and Wales, said improvement work was needed at 65 water treatment plants and for the rehabilitation of 1.200 miles of water main All the water companies are presenting

miles of water main. All the water companies are presenting business plans to Ofwat, which is due to respond by July, with a final decision on prices and funding by November.

Torday revives payout

LONG-SUFFERING shareholders in Torday & Carlisle are to receive their first dividend in seven years as the reconstituted company said it would be making a payout of 0.5p for the year. Torday, formerly an engineer, now sees itself as strategic industrial investment company — last year it raised 66 million in the market to finance small acquisitions and the taking of small stakes in undervalued businesses. The company made pre-tax profits of £1.34 million (£1.37 million) in 1998.

Mulberry warning

SHARES of Mulberry, the AlM-quoted luxury goods group, crashed further yesterday as it said that losses were likely to be worse than expected and that there will be no dividend. The company said: "Export sales in the last quarter have been materially below expectations with difficult trading conditions in Europe and the Far East." Analysts believe that losses for the year are likely to come in at £2.2 million. The shares fell 8p to 261/2p, off from a high two years ago of 214p.

Cirqual still upbeat

CIRQUAL, the aerospace, telecoms and building engineer, struck an upbeat note yesterday despite reporting a 20 per cent downturn in pre-tax profits to £4 million at the interim stage. Tony Gardand, chairman, said: "While there have been selective price pressures, continuing improvements in efficiencies have reduced the overall impact." The company is paying an unchanged interim dividend for the six months to March 7 of 4.lp on earnings per share of 9.88p (12.01p).

P&O property sell-off

P&O, the company that recently said it is to concentrate on its shipping interests, yesterday reported that it had sold some US property assets for £53.9 million. The company said it had sold Lenox Park, an urban business park consisting of three office blocks plus land in Atlanta, Georgia, to BellSouth. P&O said the price was above the book value of the assets in the company's accounts. P&O sold other Atlanta property investments last year when it unwound its joint venture with Chelsfield.

Pressac aims for takeovers

By Robert Cole, City correspondent

PRESSAC, the telecoms equipment and automotive parts supplier, aims to make acquisitions to extend strong growth.

The company last year paid £62 million for G Cartier, a French auto-components maker, and held a rights issue to fund the deal. Huw Lewis, finance director, indicated, however, that Pressac was unlikely to seek to raise further equity finance to fund any deal. He said that interest rates are low enough to make debt a better source of finance. At January 31. Pressac had debts equivalent to 82 per cent of net assets. However, the group said that gearing was at a peak. Mr Lewis added: "We have quite a bit of capacity in

our balance sheet for debt."

Geoff White, chief executive.

said that a purchase costing

ALL STRIET

that there was no immediate prospect of sealing an deal. The re-affirmation of Pres-

about £30 million would inter-

est the group, but emphasised

sac's expansionist aims came as the company reported a rise in profits in its six months to January 31. Pre-tax profits were £5 million, up from £4.5 million, but Pressac incurred £1.7 million of exceptional charges in the period. Underlying operating profits were 50 per cent up, at £6.7 million. Most of the growth was attributed to the new contribution from G Cartier.

Earnings per share, including the exceptional cost, fell from 4.36p to 3.64p. The inter-im dividend is 1.14p (1.06p adjusted for the rights issue).

Tempus, page 26

Cannons shares shoot up

CANNONS GROUP, the fastclub operator formerly known as Vardon, saw its shares gain 81/2p to 197p on the back of an upbeat trading statement (Do-

minic Walsh writes). At its annual meeting yesterday. Nick Irens, chairman, said that membership had riscn 15 per cent to 82,000 in the three months to March 31, with growth coming both from existing and new clubs. He added: "The market for health and fitness continues to grow and the future for the

group is exciting."

The sale of its attractions business, including the London Dungeon, has left the group cash positive and it is planning to invest £115 million over the next three years. Six clubs are scheduled to open in 1999 with another five in the pipeline for 2000.

US recovery helps Smurfit

By Paul Armstrong

SHARES of Jefferson Smurfit Group jumped nearly 13 per cent yesterday after the international packaging company unveiled a better than expected profit result and said that the US market would continue to drive a price recovery.

Smurfit reported pre-tax profits up 14 per cent last year to Ir£171 million (£145 million) on the back of a 12 per cent lift in sales to Ir£2.9 billion.

The strong result, and the prospect of further improvement, is some of the brightest news to emanate from the embattled paper and packaging industry over the past year.

Excess capacity in most mar-kets has combined with the Asian economic crisis to squeeze margins as manufacturers compete for business. However, Smurfit said yes-

terday that the US market should record a drop in net capacity this year and growth in global capacity would remain at, or below, 1.4 per cent.

The company said that the increasing strength of the mar-ket was highlighted by the price rises that were implemented in the US in February, which is considered a soft

month for the industry.

A total dividend of Ir4.8p was declared, a rise of 3.6 per

Analysts said that the outlook for Smurfit's share price was encouraging. "We have had a fairly positive trading statement for the first time in a long time and I think the stock will probably move ahead in the coming weeks," one analyst said. The shares closed 16p higher at 142p.

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Notice to clients of change of Interest Rates effective from 14 April 1999

		Gross Rate		AER		
		Old	New	Old	New	
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Current Accou	unt with Cash Management O	ption*				
Mortgage Rese	eve Account* and Reserve Ac	count				
	£100,000+	3.63%	3.38%	3.68%	3.42%	
	£50,000-£99,999	3.30%	3.05%	3.34%	3.09%	
	£20,000-£49,999	2.50%	2.25%	2.52%	2.27%	
	£5,000-£19,999	2.00%	1.75%	2.02%	1.76%	
3 Month Notic	ce Reserve Account for Privat	e and Business	Clients			
	£50,000+	4.88%	4.63%	4.97%	4.71%	
	£25,000-£49,999	3.75%	3.50%	3.80%	3.55%	
	£10,000-£24,999	3.25%	3.00%	3.29%	3-03%	
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Barclay brothers set to sell Howard



London's Howard hotel, which is expected to fetch £38 million

By DOMINIC WALSH

THE Barclay brothers, whose interests include the Ritz hotel and The Scotsman newspaper, are poised to sell the Howard hotel in London to a US real estate investment trust appeared likely. (REII) for £38 million.

The prospective purchaser is believed to be MeriStar, a so-called "paper-clipped" REIT that is listed on the New York Stock Exchange. It was created last year through the merger of American General Hospitality and CapStar Hotel Company. focusing exclusively on the hotel industry. Speculation over the future

of the 153-room Howard has

swirled since the reclusive Bar-

clay twins acquired the Ritz in

1995 for £75 million. The brothers are understood to have been canvassing interest for almost two years, although it is only recently that a deal has

Millennium & Copthorne Hotels is one of several groups to have expressed an interest in recent months. At its recent results, M&C admitted that it had been keen to acquire the four-star property but said that it had been put off by the

A spokeswoman for Meri-Star said last night: "We are looking at a number of deals in London and elsewhere but we have nothing to announce." She admitted that

the Howard was the type of hotel MeriStar might be interested in. However, she said that it was more interested in securing management contracts, possibly with a small equity investment, rather than outright acquisitions. MeriStar is effectively two

entities "paper-clipped" together and with shared directors. MeriStar Hospitality Corporation is the tax-efficient REIT. owning about 120 hotels in the US and Canada, many of them Hiltons and Sheratons. The operating company is MeriStar Hotels & Resorts, which manages more than 215 hotels, half of them owned by

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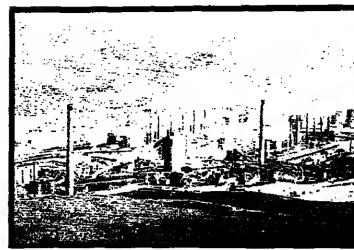
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Passing the buck on pollution



The steelworks that polluted the Victoria site in Ebbw Vale

omeowners with properties built on contaminated land could find themselves liable for the cost of cleaning up the pollution under rules to be introduced later this year. The work may involve replacing the garden topsoil, or, in the worst cases of industrial pollution, treating the land with chemicals. Both options could involve considerable expense for owners who do not have insurance cover.

The rules, to be announced by the Department of the Environment. Transport and the Regions in July, are the latest attempt by the Government to clear up ambiguities about

who should pay for pollution.

The rules will say that if the original polluter — be it a steelworks or chemical factory — no longer exists or cannot pay, the developer of the land is liable. But if local councils cannot make the developer pay, the homeowner must pick up the tab.

An official from the Department of the Environment did not know how many homeowners would be affected, but said: "Councils will make a distinction between those who bought their property at a discount because they knew the land was contaminated, and those who bought in good faith. However, there may be cases of homeowners

having to pay something."

Land experts predict fierce legal battles between the Government and the original land polluters so that homebuyers do not end up with the bill. Developers, such as Berkeley Homes, say that any clean-up costs will be reflected in higher prices for new housing.

Gwyn Griffiths, a land director for the Welsh Development Agency.

CITY & WEST END

welcomes the changes. "It could be that the situation will improve because there will be a hierarchy of responsibility," he says, "But many of the original polluters have gone, so there is a risk for some people." Laws about contaminated land were introduced only in the 1995 En-vironment Act. The Environment

lution covered is both industrial old asphalt sites and docks, for example — and natural, in the case of radon and methane gas. Local authorities will be obliged to find and investigate all the sites

in their areas from July.

Agency estimates that there may be

200,000 problem sites in the UK on

a total of 300,000 hectares. The pol-

he Department of the Environment says that the changes will protect homeowners more by putting big companies first in line to pay. But the Local Government Association, which promotes the interests of local authorities, is worried.

A spokesman says: "Changes to the Environment Act are long over-due and local authorities have an important environmental protection job to do. But with the new regulations it is very likely that legal disputes could bring work to a halt

Not all homeowners will be insured against the costs of cleaning up land. But from this month, buy-ers of new properties on brownfield sites — those most at risk — will be protected by the National House Building Council. Houses registered for its Buildmark Cover after April I will be entitled to claim the costs of cleaning up land or, if this is uneconomic, of being bought out.



Colin McNichol near his home at Victoria Dock in Hull. He does not believe he should be liable for the cost of any unforeseen pollution

THE HOMEOWNERS

HOMEOWNERS threatened with the possible costs of clearing up contamination are furious and say that the Government should, in the last resort, have to pay,

Colin McNichol lives with his wife Lesley in the Victoria Dock development in Hull — an urban village built on the site of an old timber-importing docks.

Before the 1.300-home project

could go ahead, the ground had to be raised by two metres, contaminated timber ponds drained and refilled, and gas membranes in-stalled. Work by Belway Urban Renewal on the £17 million project

will finish next year. Mr McNichol paid £90,000 for his four-bedroom house in the early Nineties: it is now worth £100,000. He is happy with Belway's development and is confident that it is safe, But if further contamination comes to light, he says, it may be impossible to call to account many of the timber firms responsible because most probably no longer exist. "It should be the problem of the landowner and developer," he says. "If we had to pay, I would find it hard to square with the Government trying to en-courage brownfields. And any risk should have been reflected in the

MICHAEL and Kay Twohig are also fearful of the changes. They live in Ebbw Vale, in a three-bedroom detached house on the Victoria development. They and their sons, aged two and seven, moved in ten months ago, paying £67,000. The site, a former steelworks.

row homes are being built because larger-scale land clean-up would have been uneconomic. Mrs Twohig says: "It was horrif-ic here before, with slagheaps and

has been cleaned of heavy metals

only in the areas where the 190 Red-



Sense of injustice: Michael and Kay Twohig with their sons

the remains of works. But now living here is lovely and clean. It has been a dramatic change. But if we found we had to pay for work still to do, and with the polluters long gone, we would feel a sense of in-justice. We paid the market price."

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She believes that the Government must pledge to pay for cleaning up and give regeneration grants if it cares about developing brownfield sites. She adds: "11 would eveo be onfair to shift the buck to the developer.

A COUNTRY mansion that has provided the setting for television programmes and films including The English Patient has been converted to Il luxury flats. Wyfold Court, about six miles from Henleyon-Thames in Oxfordshire. was built in 1872 and designed by George Somers Clarke, a pupil of Sir George Barry, the architect of the Palace of Westminster. Among its attractions is a 430 sq ft stained-glass window that has taken nine months to restore. One flat has been sold by FPD Savills: two others have been reserved. Prices range from £700,000 to £1.5 million.

■ No 1 Cambridge Gate in Regent's Park has dropped in price by about £5 million since it went on the market last October for £15 million. The house has eight bedroom suites, six reception rooms, three kitchens, a library, study and a wine cellar, its restoration is the culmination of a programme started by the Crown Estate 50 years ago to restore the war-damaged Nash terrac-es and villas of Regent's Park. De Groot Collis are selling the house for £9.75 million.

■ THE wartime home of Clark Gable is for sale in the village of Polebrook, near Oundle, Northamptonshire. He lived in The Gables, which is named after him, while serving at RAF Polebrook in the Second World War. The fivebedroom house dates back to the 17th century and is a Grade II listed building. For sale at £400.000 through Carter Jonas's Peterborough office, it has some original features, including inglenook fireplaces, omber framing and oak casement windows.

A l6th-century manor once home to Sir Walter Raleigh is for sale at £285,000. The Grade II listed Manor House. at Modbury in Devon, was the home of Katherine Champernowne, who married Walter Raleigh of Fardel, Sir Walter's father. The house, being sold through Marchand Petit, has an adjoining two-bedroom cottage and a coach house.

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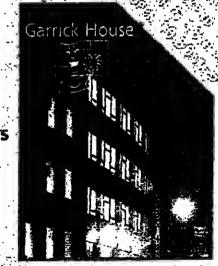
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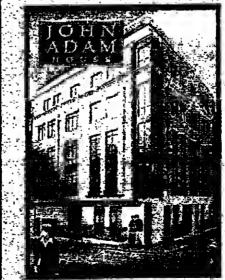
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FEATURE

KENSINGTON, SW7.

(Judgment March 19)

provision for variation.

the terms of the arrangement, de-

spite the absence of any express

The Court of Appeal so held dis-

missing, save for an appeal on

costs which was allowed, an ap-

peal by the applicant, Manish

Vinelott who held on May 8, 1997

that a five-year individual volun-

tary arrangement made by the sec-

and supervised by the first respond-

ent. David Rubin, that as a credi-

tor who had waived his entitle-

ment to a dividend in the individu-

al voluntary arrangement, he had no sufficient interest to justify pro-

ceedings challenging a proposed

variation of the arrangement by agreement between the debtor and

his creditors and that since he had

from a decision of Sir John

Ordering costs against non-party Creditor cannot oppose variation

Globe Equities Ltd v Globe Legal Services Ltd and Oth-

Same v Same Kotrie and Others v Globe Equities Ltd Globe Equities Ltd v Globe Legal Services Ltd and Anoth-

Before Lord Justice Butler- Sloss, Lord Justice Morritt and Lord Justice Sedley

Dudgment March 51 In determining whether a costs order should be made against a nonparty pursuant to section 51 of the Supreme Court 1981, the test was whether in all the circumstances it was just to exercise the power.

While it would be unjust in the vast majority of cases to make such an order, it was not a pre-condition of the exercise of the power that the circumstance: were exceptional.

The Court of Appeal so held in a reserved judgment, dismissing an appeal by solicitors. Miller Gardner, against the order of Mr Justice Parker, sitting as Vice-Chancellor in Manchester on June 6, 1997, that Miller Gardner, who were soliciiors for defendants, should pay the plaintiffs' costs on an indemnity basis in respect of two successful actions against Globe Legal Services Ltd. Geoffrey Brian Miller and oth-

Budd v Colchester Borough

Before Lord Justice Swinton Tho-

mas. Lord Justice Auld and Lord

A local authority was enotied un-der section 80(1) of the Environmen-

tal Protection Act 1990 to serve a no-

tice simply requiring the recipient

to abate the nuisance created by

barking dogs without specifying the manner of abatement or the lev-

el of barking either which constitut-

ed the nuisance or which would be

The Court of Appeal so held, dis-

missing the appeal of David Budd

against the dismissal by the Queen's Bench Divisional Court of

his appeal by case stated against the dismissal by Judge Rice at

Chelmsford Crown Court of his ap-

peal against the dismissal by Col-

chester Justices to dismiss his ap-

peal against an abatement notice

served on him by Colchester Bor-

Mr Gregory Sione, QC and Mr Jonathan Tod for Mr Budd; Mr

LORD JUSTICE SWINTON

THOMAS said that the notice iden-

David Holborn for the council.

ough Council on March 31, 1994.

Justice Thorpe

Judgment March 3

The Court of Appeal dismissed the plaintiffs' cross-appeals against the judge's refusal to make similar orders in an unsuccessful third action brought against the plaintiffs by Mr Miller and others, and in a fourth action by the plaintiffs against Globe, Mr Miller and

The defendant, Mr Miller, was one of two partners in the solicitors' firm, Miller Gardner. The first two actions related to rent due under a lease of premises owned by the plaintiffs and occupied inirially by Mr Miller and others in a former solicitors' firm, and subsequently by Miller Gardner.

Globe Legal Services was a company formed by Mr Miller and another to hold the lease and Mr Miller and others guaranteed its obliga-

The judge, upholding a district judge's order for summary judgment in the first two actions, held that, although not a party to the rent actions, Miller Gardner were the real defendants, that the ac-tions were continued for the benefit of Miller Gardner in that the continuance of the liogation enabled them to remain in the premises for over two years without paying rent; and that the defences and counterclaims in the actions were

Miller Gardner appealed the or-

rified the nuisance as "dog bark-

ing" and required him to abate the

Mr Budd kept six greyhounds,

There were many complaints from the neighbours about the dogs

barking, particularly in the early

Section 80(1) of the 1990 Act pro-

vided the local authority with a

choice. The local authority was re-

quired to serve a notice "imposing

ments" . namely "requiring the

abatement of the nuisance" or "re-

quiring other steps as may be nec-

Depending on the circumstanc-

It was not difficult to envisage

es, it was open to the local authori-

ty to take one or other course when

facts where it would be wholly un-

reasonable for a local authority to

serve a notice merely requiring the

recipient to abate the nuisance

without stating the works or steps

which the local authority required

to be taken for that purpose, or

where it was clear on the face of the

notice that the notice itself required

Kirklees Metropolitan Borough

such works or steps to be taken.

Council v Field ((1997) 96 LGR 151)

all or any of the following require-

nuisance within 21 days.

hours of the morning.

serving the notice.

on the plaintiffs' cross-appeals in the third and fourth actions are not

Mr Gabriel Moss, QC and Miss Roxanne Ismail for Miller Gardner: Mr James Bonney, QC and Mr Jonathan Gavaghan for the plain-

LORD JUSTICE MORRITT said that the jurisdiction to award costs against a non-party was conferred by section 51(1) and (3) of the Supreme Court Act 1981: see Aiden Shipping Co Ltd v Interbulk Ltd ([1986] AC 965).

Counsel for Miller Gardner, basing himself on Symphony Group plc v Hodgson ([1994] QB 179, 192-193), submitted that the facts did not bring it within the category of exceptional so as to entitle the court to make the orders.

There appeared to be a danger of treating the requirement that the circumstances were exceptional as being part of the statute. It was not. The epithet originated in Hodgson case, but was based on what Lord Goff of Chieveley said in Aiden Shipping (at p980F):

"In the vast majority of cases, it would no doubt be unjust to make an award of costs against a person who is not a party to the relevant ways so."

"Exceptional circumstances" had not been elevated by the au-

was such a case. A rock face and a

wall were in imminent danger of

collapse on to some cottages and

ers of the rock face and wall "to

It was clear from the notice itself

that the only way the nuisance

could be abated was by carrying

out very extensive works of shoring

up the wall and securing the rock

In those circumstances, Mr Jus-

tice Owen stated that the notice

plainly required the execution of

works and, accordingly, the works

In the ordinary way a local au-

thority was entitled under section

80(1) to serve a notice simply requir-

ing the recipient to abate the nui-

sance. It was a wholly appropriate

course for the council to take in this

The barking of the greyhounds

was a nuisance by noise to Mr Budd's neighbours. There were many ways in which be might

The most extreme would be to

get rid of all six greyhounds, but

that might well be an unreasona-

ble requirement. A reduction in the

number of dogs might abate the

abate the nuisance.

had to be stated in the notice.

abate the statutory nuisance".

Serving noise nuisance notice

Raja v Rubin and Another thorities into a pre-condition to the exercise of the power; nor should Before Lord Justice Hirst, Lord Justice Peter Gibson and Lord Justice

Ultimately the test was whether in all the circumstances it was just to exercise the power conferred by the Act to make a non-party pay he costs of the proceedings.

Plainly, in the ordinary run of cases where the party was pursuing or defending the claim for his own benefit through solicitors acting as such, there was not usually any justification for making someone else pay the costs.

But there would be cases where either or both those two features were absent. In such cases it would be a matter for judgment and the exercise by the judge of his discretion to decide whether the circumstances relied on were such as to make it just to order a non-party to

Thus the exceptional case was one to be recognised by compari-son with the ordinary run of cases, not defined in advance by reference to any further characteristic. In the circumstances, the judge was entitled to conclude that the

Gardner. Lord Justice Butler-Sloss and Lord Justice Sedley agreed. Solicitors: Weightmans, Liver-pool; Willan Bootland White, Man-

nuisance, Insulation of part of the

tt might be possible to send the

dogs to an animal training centre

to cure the problem. However, it

might well not be reasonable for

the local authority to require Mr

Budd to take that course, because he might not be able to afford to do

It was quite sufficient for the lo-

cal authority to require Mr Budd

himself to abate the nuisance in a

manner which was the least incon-

venient or expensive and the most

cal authority to state the level of barking which constituted the nui-

sance, or the level of barking which

would be acceptable, Indeed, h would be impracticable for the lo-

The local authority was entitled

to serve a notice requiring Mr Budd to abate the nuisance which

involved reducing the level of bark-

ing so that it ceased to be a nut-

Lord Justice Auld and Lord Jus-

Solicitors: Tilbrooks, Ongar: Mr

Nor was it necessary for the lo-

acceptable to him.

cal authority to do so.

sance by noise,

tice Thorpe agreed.

John Cobley, Coichester.

house might be sufficient.

case was exceptional so as to justify an order for costs against Miller

no such interest be should pay costs on an indemnity basis. Mr Victor Joffe and Mr Timoth Collingwood for Mr Raja, Mr Edward Bailey for Mr Rubin and Mr

David Halpern for Mr Goodman LORD JUSTICE PETER GIB-SON said Mr Goodman, was a so-licitor who had practised as a sole practitioner under the style Bowl-ing & Co. Mr Raja and four other ployees, had become purtners in Bowling & Co without taking over the accumulated debts of the sole practice.

The Inland Revenue having peti-tioned for Mr Goodman's bankruptcy, he had entered into an individual voluntary arrangement with his creditors in January 1992. The agreement contained no power for it to be amended.

Under It, Mr Raja had waived any entitlement to a dividend on a debt of £63,000 owed him by Mr Goodman. Mr Goodman's pariners were to make ex grada contributions to the creditors.

in March 1996 all the creditors save Mr Raia had accepted an offer from Mr Goodman. Mr Raja had applied for directions under section 263(3) of the Insolvency Act 1986, claiming that any variation to the arrangement should be approved by all the creditors.

The judge could see no reason why all the creditors entitled to share in the proceeds of the assets brought into an individual voluntary arrangement should not agree to vary their rights, despite the abence of an express power to vary the arrangement

It was not in dispute that the

1986 Act contained no provision for the variation of an individual voluntary arrangement once approved, although it was legiomate for an arrangement to contain a

nower of variation. In the absence of such a power. A creditor who had waived his right to a dividend under an indiany variation could not, in his Lordship's judgment, have effect as if it vidual voluntary arrangement were made as a part of the original with a debtor could not oppose a individual voluntary arrangement subsequent agreement between the debior and other creditors to vary having statutory force.

But the statutory provisions did not compel the conclusion that in was not possible for those interested in a provision of an individual voluntary arrangement to agree a variation of that provision when no one else was affected adversely or

There was no sensible reason why those whose interests were affected should not be free to agree an alteration to their rights and liabilities, though if a person's interest was adversely affected he could

position was no different from that obtaining under the general law where there was a multilateral contract. It was always open to some of the parties agree a variation of their rights as between themselves if they could do so without affect-

properly seek the intervention of the court under section 263(3).

In his Lordship's judgment, that

ing the rights of the other parties. The consensual variations only had force in contract. But the court when invited to consider what order or other direction to make need not shut its eyes to the fact of the relevant consensual variation. Mr Raja's waiver had benefited

the other creditors and had been made expressly conditional on ac-ceptance of the individual voluntary arrangement.

But his Lordship did not accept that a condition was to be implied that those interested in the arrangement could not between themselves agree a variation. That impli-cation could not satisfy any test of necessity. If Mr Raja had wished to make his waiver subject to further conditions he could have done so. but he had not.

As a creditor unhappy with the way the supervisor was approaching Mr Goodman's proposed variation to the individual voluntary arrangement, Mr Raja was within the categories of persons who could apply to the court under section 262(3).

The judge had been wrong to award costs on an indemnity basis against Mr Raja who had not aced improperly in availing himself of the opportunity presented by the Act to apply to the court. Costs should be on the standard basis. Lord Justice Clarke delivered a

concurring judgment. Solicitors: Bowling & Co. Peck-ham: Edwin Coe: Ralph Davis.

Change of circumstances for reviewing price control

In re Medicaments and Related Classes of Goods

Refore Mr Justice Buckley, Mr J. A. Scott and Mr B. D. Colgate

Judement March III Refore the Restrictive Practices Court could grant leave pursuant to section 17 of the Resale Prices Act 1976 for a review of an earlier deci sion as to whether a class of goods was exempt from the prohibioon on resale price maintenance contained in the 1976 Act, it had to be atisfied that there was prima facie evidence of a material change in

A change in circumstances was material if, taken on its own or together with other changes, it might have led the court to a different re-

The Restrictive Practices Court so held in a reserved judgment, al-lowing the application of the Direcleave to apply to the court for an or-der under section 17 of the 1976 Act discharging the order of the Restrictive Practices Court that certain goods known as "Medicaments and related classes of goods should be exempted goods for the purposes of the Resale Prices Acts: see In re Medicaments Reference (No 2) ((1970) 7 RP 267).

Mr David Oliver, QC and Mr Jon Turner for the Director-Gener al; Mr Mark Cran, QC and Mr David Anderson for the Proprie-tary Association of Great Britain and the Proprietary Articles Trade

MR JUSTICE BUCKLEY said that section 17(2) of the 1976 Act provided: "No application shall be made under this section except with the court's leave, and that leave shall not be granted except upon prima facie evidence of a material change in the relevant cir-cumstances since the court's last decision in respect of the goods in

It would defeat the public interest if the court could not review its earlier decisions in the light of nging circumstances.

ICR 753), the words "relevant circumstances" referred to an essential part of the court's reasoning.

port of the application which com-prised the new factual situation. His Lordship accepted the sub-

context "material change" meant a change which, sensibly regarded. might have led the court to a different result. To do otherwise would involve the court in virtually a full assessment of the case, including the criteria set out in section 14 of the 1976 Act, at the leave stage.

"Prima facie evidence" meant evidence which, if not balanced or outweighed by any other evidence, would suffice to establish a particu-

1976 Act, the precise standard of evidence required to establish a parocular contention had to be left to the good sense of the tribunal. One result of the prima facie evidence test was that evidence from a respondent, however interest was unlikely to be helpful at the leave stage.

Applying In re Cement Makers Federation Agreement (No 2) [1974] ICR 445, 452) and In re Net Book Agreement 1957 (No 4) (1998)

In the Cement Makers case, for example, Mr Justice Mocatta sought (at p448b et seq) sought to summarise the court's earlier reasoning by reciting the relevant find-ings before comparing them with the grounds put forward in sup-

mission of Mr Oliver that in this

Where the tribunal was granted

it was by sections 14 and 17 of the

In 1970, the court had concluded that the removal of resale price maintenance from proprietary medicines would result in more chemists going out of business more quickly, reducing the number of outlets for both prescribed and proprietary medicines; further, that there would be a substandal loss of outlets for less frequently demanded proprietary medicines, all to the detriment of the public see In re Medicaments Reference (No 2) (at pp310e et seu;

Evidence in support of the Director-General's application was largely to be found in Material Changes in the Medicaments Marker since 1970 published by the Of-fice of Fair Trading in January 1998, which identified eight princi-

pal changes.
The court was obliged to consider them both individually and collectively, as two or more changes might become material if, taken to gether, they could affect the bal-ance of detriment, albeit that one alone might not. There was enough prima facie

evidence of material changes for it to be in the public interest for the court to revisit the matter.

Solicitors: Treasury Solicitor: Cameron McKenna.

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VISUAL ART Kandinsky comes to the Royal Academy PAGE 36

THE

POP Cranberries hit the comeback trail PAGE 37



OPERA: Glyndebourne's new general director, Nicholas Snowman, has radical plans, as he tells Richard Morrison

Fasten your cummerbunds

f you believe Sir George Christie — and after all, it is his home - the image of Glyndebourne as a picture-postcard pile where corporate fatcats guzzle champagne and then snooze through operas is a wild invention of the tabloid press that is mysteriously repeated by nearly everyone else.

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Someone said to me the other day: 'If you removed the gardens and the picnic thing, you wouldn't be doing more than 50 per cent busi-ness'," he sniffs. "I did think the re-mark was churlish. Artistically, the festival is very serious. Our repertoire is highly adventurous, considering that we are unsubsidised. And our corporate supporters, who are always slagged off first, are the ones who buy most of the tickets for the most challenging repertoire."

Well, their thirst for musical exotica will surely be satisfied now. Nicholas Snowman has arrived, and if any English music administrator

⁶Glyndebourne can do something about the museum culture afflicting the classical music world?

qualifies for the epithet "radical chic" it is Glyndebourne's new general director. Founder of Britain's top new-music ensemble, the London Sinfonietta; devout Pierre Boulez acolyte: champion of "themed festivals" and other mind-expanding iamborees as boss of the South Bank Centre in London ... Snow-man is unlikely to let Glyndebourne's pearls-and-Pimm's atmosphere deter him from his zealous mission to promote the new and the esoteric. "The classical music world generally is afflicted by museum culture," he says. "In opera that shows itself in the fixation on certain singers. That irritates and worries me, and I think Glyndebourne can do something about it."

So fasten your cummerbund. Corporate Man, you're in for a bumpy ride. Of course Glyndebourne has premiered several tough new works in recent years. And as Snowman points out, he inherits a newly commissioned Harrison Birtwistle opera from his predecessor, Anthony Whitworth-Jones. Called The Last Supper, it will take a "sophisticated, millennial look at Christianity", Snowman says. Indeed, it has already excited theological curiosity by increasing the number of those present at the Last Supper to 14. "As well as Christ and the Disciples there's a ghost, represenong our generation." Snowman explains. The work goes on the



Nicholas Snowman in the gardens at Glyndebourne: his adventurous repertoire plans for the next ten years have been greeted with "total support" by Sir George Christie and the Glyndebourne board, he says

comes into the festival in 2001. That's not all on the Birtwistle

front. Snowman also intends to revive the master's vast electronic opera. The Mask of Orpheus. "I have a thing about it," he says. Won't it eat up massive amounts of rehearsal time and budget? 'That's what we are here for," he replies.

This is just the start of Snowman's shock-of-the-new assault on the Sussex Downs. He has commissioned the clever young English composer Thomas Ades to write a new opera for Glyndebourne in 2003. He considered it "obvious" to grab the British premiere of What Next?, a new mini-opera by Elliott Carter, veteran American composer of some of the 20th century's knottiest scores. And another uncompromising modernist, Peter Entyos, has been co-commissioned by Glyndebourne and the Châtelet

Kushner's Angels in America.

Snowman says that he has received total support from Christie and Glyndebourne's board. "I have had complete liberty to go berserk. Last month the board approved my programme for the years 2001 to 2005, budgets included. I have also mapped out 2006 to 2010. They have said ves to the contemporary repertoire and everything else."

"Everything else" is scarcely less jolly. Glyndebourne will assemble a cycle of Monteverdi's three extant operas using period instruments, and embark-on a "German Romantic" project, involving several 19thcentury operas hitherto thought unredeemable. My arrogant hope is that we will at last prove that We-ber's Euryanthe and Oberon and Schumann's Genoveva are stageworthy," Snowman says. "To be pretendous, we want to reveal their

aving lost the serv-ices of Gennadi Rozh-destvensky, the Roy-al Liverpool Philharmonic Or-

chestra found itself deprived

also of the presence of his wife,

Viktoria Postnikova, who was

to have been the soloist in the

same concert at the Philhar-

monic Hall. Oddly enough,

bearing in mind that the ma-

ior work in the programme

was Shostakovich's Eighth

Symphony, the conductor

problem was the one more sat-

The original intendon was

to precede the Shostakovich

with Mozart's Piano Concerto

isfactorily solved.

aving lost the serv-

Glyndebourne tour next year and in Paris to write an opera on Tony 'deep structure' - the real drama with lighter voices actually singing era each season to the period-instru-

Even the stoutest Glyndebourne supporter, one suspects, may oeed to pack an extra bottle of fine Chablis into the hamper to cope with that lot Snowman's German Romantic project is planned to lead to one thunderous summer of nothing except deeply meaningful Teutonic blockbusters, including Tristan and Wazzeck. "That's pencilled in for post-2005 and may prove impractical," he concedes.

esides Tristan, he also plans an Otello. Both would be conducted by the mesmeric Valery Gergiev. Even so, isn't this taking Glyndebourne into epic Wagner and Verdi regions that are best left to bigger theatres? "But our Otello will be intimate, and our Tristan will be done as Wagner wanted,

the lines," Snowman argues. Snowman has hooked Simon Rat-

tle to return in 2003 for Idomeneo (with Peter Sellars directing), and is negotiating with the glamorous maestro of Los Angeles. Esa-Pekka Salonen, to make his Glyndebourne debut. Mark Elder and David Atherton also feature in his plans. So what about the choice of music director to replace Andrew Davis, who leaves next year? "At the moment we are talking to many people, some of whom I have already named," Snowman says.
"And I'm hoping that Yakov Kreizberg will also return here to conduct." But Snowman decided "pretty quickly" to dispense with the posidon of director of productions (currently Graham Vick).

Another change will involve the resident orchestras: the London Philharmonic will lose another op-

ment Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment. The LPO has been very understanding," Snowman purts. A new "international concert series" will begin in the opera house this Sunday with a piano recital by Mitsuko Uchida. And there are big changes in store for Glyndebourne Touring, the one part of the operation that receives Arts Council subsidy — though far less than it should, according to Snowman.

"I was outraged to find that we were getting a subsidy of El6 per audience member to tour, while Opera North and Welsh National Opera get more than E40. So we are negotiating to remedy that. We are also cutting costs for the 1999 tour, and reconstituting the touring repertoire to include more old favourites. The tour is haemorrhaging money that we need to make the festival programme exciting."

And exciting the Snowman years promise to be. Of course, as Chrisde points out, Glyndebourne has always pioneered new and neglected repertoire. "I think of Mozart before the war, then the Rossini comedies. Raymond Leppard's revival of Baroque opera, the Janacek cycle

our record speaks for itself." Indeed it does. But with Christie (who turns 65 on December 31) passing the chairmanship of the family business to his son Gus on the first dawn of the new millennium, there is a distinct end-of-era aura around the old place now. "ti will be a staggered handover," Christie promises. "I want the audience to feel comfortable with our future plans." Will they? ft will be quite a test of Corporate Man's taste for adventure.

 Mitsuko Uchida plays Beethoven and Schumann at Glyndebourne f01273 815025) on Sunday at 3pm

A bit too much

excitement

A joyful noise unto the Lord

pple? Serpent? No sign of these in Haydn's Garden of Eden. All is famously blithe and bonny in The Creation, Haydn's version of the biblical story; and it did not take long in Roger Norrington's punchy performance with the London Philharmonic for the proper spell of wonder to be cast. Chaos reigned eerily with drifting chromatic lines and lurching crescendos: the Creator switched on the light with that mega-watt C major blast, then, before we knew it, the 100-strong London Philharmonic Choir was touching the soul, in rapt praise of God's "new-created world".

There are hits and misses in the English words to Haydn's oratorio. "Despairing" seems weak recompense for the German verzweiflung. Yet the sheer directness of the English phrasing can lead us straight to the work's heart. "This world so great, so wonderful," Adam duets tenderly with Eve in the Garden of Eden. If only it were possible 200 years later to write music of such innocence, such certainty.

Norrington himself did everything possible to bring the humanist message home. driving the LPO's modern instruments according to period practice, highlighting their instrumental colours, floating the "secco" recitatives on the hard sound of a fortepiano. He encouraged us to applaud at



going to have a good ome. Bass-baritone David Wilson-Johnson certainly did: he communicated directly as the archangel Raphael, making the most of the descriptive passages about flaky snow, finny tribes, flexible tigers and the creeping worm.

John Mark Ainsley's Uriel took longer to impress. But his tenor voice woke up once God invented the Sun and Moon awesome sights rewarded by beautiful, clear enunciation. Fellow archangel Gabriel also sounded clear as a bell. Indisposition robbed us of Donna Brown, but Nancy Argenta was a fine alternative, shaping lines with sensitivity. And she alone made a virtue of the second interval, changing into a light green dress as large as a tree, billing and cooing as Eve with Wilson-Johnson's Adam.

Above, heyond and behind was the choir. They were splendidly vigorous, never swamped by the orchestra. Praise be to them and chorus master Neville Creed. And praise be to Norrington, who lived through the music, flinging his baton into the sky, flexing his knees and jiggling shoulders whenever the excitement got too much.

GEOFF BROWN

Outstand-in



from the Violin Concerto No I in B flat, K207, which is a com-paratively weak work and which needs the most persuasive advocacy if it is to make any positive impression. Daniel . Hope, a young violinist more developed in technique than personality, would have

been well advised to avoid it. His performance of the concerto was not lacking in style but. accomplished though it was, it would have been far more interesting if something in the material of the score had prooked a spontaneous reaction.

Alexander Anissimov, the replacement conductor, surely will come back to Liverpool in the near future. A pupil of (among others) Rozhdestvensky himself, he has a similarly fluent, if less eccentric, technique and he has authority. He also knows his Shostako-

vich. His interpretation of the Eighth Symphony was so natu-rally paced and so clear in its expressive intendons that there was scarcely one instance of doubt in an orchestral performance of sustained brilliance and emotional commitment. If he failed to fit every episode of the work into a coherent structural strategy, he certainly did not underestimate its drama@c content and he was no less effective in securing the intimate atmosphere proper to such contempladve moments as the cor anglais solo in the first movement or the magical entry of

GERALD LARNER

the horn in the fourth.

seems the very embodiment of the Florestan/Eusebius dual personality which Schumann set up for himself: on the one hand, the passionate extrovert; on the other, the shy dreamer. In the six years since his being awarded BBC Young Musician of the Year, Kempf has made his mark with both the fearless strength and stamina of his playing,

and the cultivated tone and in-

tense listening of its reflective

There are omes when

young Freddy Kempi

No wonder, then, that he has focused on Schumann's Carnaval to lead his forthcoming debut recording; and that he chose it as the centrepiece of his sold-out recital on Sunday. And he can perhaps be forgiven for emphasising the polarity of the Florestan and Eusebius personalities: at times it seemed as if there wasn't much in between. Pierrot and Arlequin, Pantalon and Columbine were mawkish characters in the violence of their

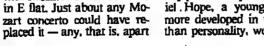
dynamic contrasts. Kempf clearly took the name of the work at face value. This was a real carnival: at times vulgar, often intoxicated, and frequented as much by the Lord of Misrule as by its commedia dell'arte characters. Kempf is just 21 and he will, I hope, eventually look longer and deeper into the piece: at the moment his sheer excilement in it is palpable and dominant, and

Freddy Kempf Migmore Hall

the work can surely take it. Rachmaninov, though, cannot. He, too, wrote with both passionate ardour and deep inner melancholy. But the temperament and idiom are totally different, and Kempf made us insufficiently aware of the fact. He played the earlier. longer 1913 version of the Sonata No 2 in B flat minor, and his technique and extraordinary stamina were certainly up to its demands. But it didn't sound like Rachmaninov. Phrases and paragraphs were pushed ahead, rather than being fired by a sense of inner propulsion: and the pealing sonorities so characteristic of the composer tended to be lost in a welter of insufficiently selected and balanced voices.

Kempf was happier in the Beethoven Sonata Op III with which he bravely began the evening. Here his daring, and his excitement with sound in its own right, led to playing which recreated Beethoven's own sense of struggle in the first movement without compromising its structure. And his ease and simplicity in articulating and pacing the Arietta needed only a little more air and a little less pedal to be equally compelling.

HILARY FINCH



GREAT BRITISH HOPES

Rising stars in the arts firmament: Rebecca. Katharine and Helena Wood Professions: Oboist. cellist.

violinist. Ages: 24, 22, 19. Are they really a trio? They

have played chamber music together since they were eight: their mother is a clarinettist, their father a violinplaying solicitor. Now they play together in concerts, and also follow solo careers.

And recitals? "We're not brilliantly matched from the point of view of repertoire. But we do make arrangements for oboe, cello and violin of Baroque pieces by composers like Quantz and Corelli, and intersperse them with duets. And we've commissioned a work specially for us

from the young composer Christopher Wiggins."

Are they rivals in competitions? "We have entered cornpetitions against each other, yes; but that helps rather than hinders! We're all really supporting each other." In 1992 Rebecca reached the woodwind finals of the Young Musician of the Year, and in 1996 Helena and Katharine also made it to the national finals.

Where are they now? Rebecca is freelancing after studying at the Royal Academy, the Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts and the Guildhall School, She also plays in her own wind quin-



tet, Quintessence, whose first CD is due in June. Katharine is completing her fourth year at the Royal Northern Colege and is then off to the US. Helena is in her second year at the Royal Academy.

Forthcoming dates? Next Tuesday they all play at the Queen Elizabeth Hall: violin, cello and oboe concertos by

London Soloists Chamber Orchestra. And on June 13 Katharine and Helena play the Beethoven Triple Concerto with pianist Freddy Kempf at Hertfordshire University. In the same concert, Rebecca will play the Strauss Oboe

HILARY FINCH

ARTS

GALLERIES Who was John Tunnard?

The audacious dash to abstraction

VISUAL ART: Richard Cork finds

Kandinsky's reckless energy barely contained at the Royal Academy

⁶He

man

with a

f all the painters art in the early 20th century, Vasily Kanlong. With an audacity that still seems courageous, he decided to jettison all references to the world of appearances. Around 1912, Kandinsky embarked on a voyage into an abstract universe. That heroic journey, and the pictorial discoveries he made there, had a profound effect on the future course of Modernism. He was a liberator, and the finest exhibits from that period charge his Royal Academy exhibition of works on paper with an impassioned, surging

energy.
Kandinsky took
a surprisingly long time to arrive at such boldness. In his native Russia, he had studied law and was expected to eniov an outstanding career as an academic teacher. But with a recklessness as vehement as his later pursuit of Abstraction, he rejected legal studies in 1896 and decided to

train as an artist in Munich. Already 29, Kandinsky was older than his fellow-students. And for a while he followed a nostalgic course.

The earliest exhibits in the RA show are fuelled by the urge to escape into fairytale fantasy. They resemble illustrations for children's stories. Sometimes he is guilty of an artfulness bordering on whimsy: in a preposterous sketch for a poster advertising a French brewery, a lavishly plumed lady pours beer into a froth-filled glass with risible theatricality. But other images from this difficult, formative period show a greater toughness. One picture in particular, a gouache and crayon work called Night, seems prophetic. At first, the blanched and melancholy maiden comb-

ing her undulating tresses in this mysterious scene appears to have strayed from a latterday Pre-Raphaelite painting. In reality, though, she derives from an ancient Russian tale about Baba Jaga, a malevolent witch who extends a crooked blue finger from the right side of the gouache. Kandinsky shows her coaxing a small boy to leave his flaxen-haired sis-ter and wander into the countryside. The moonlit flowers. trees and meadows are reduced to a sequence of simplified, fluently brushed forms. Barely identifiable, they announce the strangeness of the dream-like visions Kandinsky

would soon place at the centre of his In 1908, the year after Night was exbecame a ecuted, he became more singleminded in his urge to overhaul the language of Western art. With Gabriele Munter, a young painter he had met during their stumessianic dent days in Mumission? spending his summers at

Murnau in the Bavarian Alps. The sublime landscape helped to stimulate him, and before long he became a powerful force in the avant-garde groups then galvanising new German art.

By now in his forties, the Russian expatriate seemed an unlikely figurehead for innovaoon and revolt. Impeccably dressed, Kandinsky never lost the air of pedagogy he had ac-quired during his university days. But the work he now produced was the opposite of academic. Like the crusaders who impel their galloping horses forward in his 1903 gouache, he became a man with a mes-

The equestrian image haunted his imagination, turning across an impetuous colour



Classic Kandinsky: his 1913 Watercolour with Red Spot, painted while the artist was preoccupied with the notion that the imminent war would open the door to spiritual renewal

woodcut called Lyrical. The contours of both man and mount, stripped of all superfluity, have become almost skeletal. Their dynamism reflects

the spirit of The Blue Rider, a group dedicated to broadcasting radical initiatives in art through exhibitions and publications. Kandinsky, who had

vite youth, found enormous stimulus in music. He included Schoenberg's paintings in a Blue Rider show as early as 1911, and both men were heartened by the discovery of their shared concerns. Musical in-fluences helped to convince Kandinsky that art should claim the freedom to detach it-

self from representing visible appearances. He wanted to go far beyond the surface of things, and acknowledged his debt to music by giving his 1913 book of coloured woodcuts the exclamatory offe Klange (Sounds). The images within this exuberant album can be counted among Kandinsky's most joyful and unfet-

Kandinsky devoted much of his formidable energy to a se-ries of ebullient images each called Improvisation. But some of the watercolours displayed here prove that even the most rapturous of his abstractions were underpinned by intensive preparadon. Study for Composition VII, a seemingly impetuous canvas of 19t3, shows how carefully he planned these eruptive images. The amount of elaborate calculation tying behind Kand-insky's major paintings of the period in no sense dilutes their exhilaration. The greatest oils he produced then are among the high points of 20th-century art, and no London gallery has ever mounted a substantial exhibition of Kandinsky's convul-

played the cello in his Musco-sive achievement during those years: Bot the 1913 Watercolour with Red Spot, a classic example of his work on paper, shouts out its forcefulness with

overwhelming conviction from the Royal Academy's walls. For all Kandinsky's wild mo-dernity, these images derive much of their fervent power from his religious beliefs. His most influential theoretical defence of Abstraction, published in English in 1914, is the

tled Concerning the Spiritual in Art. And many of his works are obsessed with the Resurrection, the Flood or the Last Judgment. The prospect apocalypse unleashed the most orgiastic side of Kandinsky's complex

temperament. tn common with other European artists, he became preoccupied with the notion that wholesale renewal would be attained only after equally

thoroughgoing destruction. Hence his uncanny ability, in some of these turbulent watercotours, to anticipate the an-nihilation that engulfed Eu-rope in the latter half of 1914. Kandinsky welcomed the dec-laradon of war at first, regard-ing it as a necessary purgative. But he was forced to leave Germany, first for Switzerland and then Russia. His art lost

its overriding impetus during these years of exile. And the death at the Front of young painter-friends soon persuaded him to deplore the conflict.

Some of the images he produced in 1915 and the following year, most notably the fractured Watercolour with Black Lines, reflect a more tragic mood. His marriage to Nina Andreevskaya in 1917 was

three darkened years later by the death of their ⁶ His later young son Volo-dya. The ebbing of Kandinsky's experi-mental appetite is demonstrated by work seems his alarmingly tepid and conventiontasteful al View of Moscow, which lapses into the kind of feeble and naturalism he had formerly abhorred. bland? As for the militant artists who came to

prominence during the Russian Revolution.

they regarded Kandinsky as a bourgeois individualist. Their anopathy persuaded Kandinsky to leave Russia for good in 1921 and accept Walter Gropius's invitation to teach at the newly formed Bauhaus. The prospect of progressive art and architecture allying to forge a new society appealed to a painter who had always been fired by the idea of the Gesamthunstweek Gesamtkunstwerk, a grand coming-together of the arts.

To my eyes, though, his

work as a teacher had an in-creasingly detrimental effect on the art he produced. Kandinsky recovered his belief in the viability of Abstraction, becoming a prolific thoughtful and inventive exponent of a language freed from the need to represent. But a new emphasis on peatness and geometrical order drains his work of its former dynamism. Heavily reliant on compasses and a rul-er, he retreated from the im-passioned, sensuous impulse dominating his finest prewar work. Kandinsky never suc-cumbed to formula: a 1928 watercolour called Weighing is a new departure, setting circles and rectangles free to float in a cosmic equilibrium. It seems, however, tasteful and bland af-

ter his earlier risk-taking. There is no sign, in the closing phases of the show, of an artist enjoying a supremely fruitful late phase. He continued to try new ideas, even after settling near Paris for the last decade of his life. But the apparent sprightliness of a work like the t937 Line with Accompaniment cannot disguise its fundamental tidiness and cauoon. Kandinsky's yearning for apocalyptic renewal, which gave his earlier work its rousing ardency, had expired on the battlefields of the First World War. However diligently he tried afterwards, the old sense of adventure could never be fully recovered.

■ Kandinsky at the Royal Academy (0171-300 5760/1) until July 4

Peter Potworowski (1898-1962) was one of those artists unfortunate enough to fall between two cultures - in his case Polish and Briosh. It is surprising how often this makes a radical difference to an artist's standing and reputation: the fact of belonging wholly to no nationali-ty in particular inhibits both sides from staking claims. Potworowski was born and began his training in Poland Lafe and began his training in Poland, left for Paris in 1924 and studied there under Leger, and did not return to Poland until 1930. When the Germans invaded he was forced to leave, arriving in London in 1943. In England he was an influential teacher, mainly at the Bath Academy, and exhibited widely, with the Lon-

don Group and elsewhere. In 1958 he moved back to Poland, but for the Poles he was never really a Pole, and in Britain his reputation trailed off when he was not there to nurture it. Fortunately now we have a major rediscov-ery show, consisting mostly of his later British oils and watercolours. He paints people in landscapes or interiors, with a unique delicacy of colouring, unifying all elements into patterns of subtle harmony. He appears to have been influ-enced a little by Bonnard, on whom he was an expert, but the final effect is total-

was an expert, but the final effect is totally different. If a painter who fits into no pigeonhole can be tolerated, he thoroughly deserves a second look.

Connaught Brown, 2 Albemarle Street, W1 (0171-408 0362). Mon-Fri 10am-6pm, Sat 10am-12.30pm, until April 30.

AROUND THE GALLERIES

☐ IT IS not for nothing that the catalogue essay for Spink-Leger's latest exhibition is headed "Who was John Tunnard?" Tunnard (1900-71) was in fact quite a figure in his day: he had connections with the English Suprepliets and tions with the English Surrealists and, later, the artists who gathered round Ni-cholson and Hepworth in St Ives; he did one of the most prominent and memora-ble murals in the Festival of Britain. But ultimately he saw things in his own terms, and never really fitted in with anybody. Hence, like Potworowski, he is impossible to pigeonhole, and still suffers for it, being not so much underestimated as unestimated.

The tide began to turn two years ago. with the publication of a major book on him, and this small but distinguished show should do nothing but improve his standing. The works in it date from bestanding. The works in it date from be-tween 1938 and 1969; none of them, odd-ly, from the period which seems particu-larly his, the Fifties. All of his works, in-deed, look at a glance as though they be-long to the Festival of Britain style, all spindly lines, streamlined shapes, and the excitement of television equalled only by the thrills of space flight. Many of his pictures have a faintly science-ficoonal air, with mysterious, almost abstract shapes hovering somewhere in outer space, parts of a new technology we vaguely recognise but do not attempt

to understand. Thus the earliest paintings look like bold anticipations, the later curiously retrograde. But all, indubitably, belong to Tunnard alone. Like him or not, he is definitely an artist to be reckoned with.

Spink-Leger, 13 Old Bond Street, WI (0171-629 3538). Mon-Fri 9am-5.30pm. until April 23.

☐ Peter listed was the brother-in-law of Vilhelm Hammershoi. Which to many is probably like confidently announcing "For the Snark was a Boojum, you see". But if you know that Hammershoi was one of the great masters of the second Golden Age of Danish art in the 1900s, specialising in crepuscular interiors humming with a mysterious intersity was though the ous intensity, even though frequently un-peopled, then the connection makes a lot of sense. Ilsted was less mysterious, more human, and, to be honest, not in any way as good. But that is comparing him to a great artist, which he never claimed to offer, especially in his mezzoonts. Each print was individually hand coloured, to beautiful, elusive effect Lumley Cazalet also has some charming oils, but it is the prints that constitute IIsted's most individual contribution. Lumley Cazalet, 33 Davies Street, WI (0171-491 4767). Mon-Fri 10am-6pm; un-til April 23.

JOHN RUSSELL TAYLOR

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LONDON

APRIL 14 19gg

SUDDENILY LAST SUMMER: Shelle Gish plays the venomous mother and Rachel Weisz the traumatised wife in the famous Tennessee Williams shocker. Sean Mathias directs. Camedy (0171-369 1731). Opens

ANINIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS: In ANINVERSARY CELEBRATIONS: In a gala concert jointly marking Neville Martiner's 75th birthday and the 40th anniversary of the Academy of SI Martin in the Fields, the conductor leads his vibrant orchestra in mesterpieces spanning three centuries. Mozant's Haffiner Symphony is followed by Britten and Mendelssohn. Festival Haff (0171-960 4242).

Tonight, 7.30pm. (2)

THE NEW ROCKY HORROR SHOW Jason Donovan plays Frank'n'Furter. Perhaps the show has improved since its Birmingham opening last year. Victoria Palace (0171-834 1317). Opens tonight, 8pm.

MAHLER THE SPECTACLE: Daniele Gatti conducts the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra in tonight's installment of this entensive survey of major works by the Austrian Romante. Here the Suth Symphony follows the Fluckert Lieder, sung by the Cherismatic benitone Vladimir Chernov.

ELSEWHERE

CAMBRIDGE: The exciting collaboration between the Norwegian secondonist Jen Garbarek and the Hilliard Essentials forges alread. To ase of their new



Vladimir Chernov sings Mahler at the Albert Hall

featuring music from the project King's College Chapel (01223 357851). Tonight, 8pm.

EDINBURGH: Begin Again is a new David Harrower play, sat in 1948. Could a murder behind a dance hall have happened any other way? Traverse (0131-228 1404). Opens

onight. 7.30pm. 🕲 POOLE: The violinist currently known merely as Kennedy joins the Bourne-mouth Symphony Orchestra under Andrew Littion in a concert leaturing two pre-war British places, Kennedy performs Elgar's Violin Concerto followed by Watton's Pirst Symphony, Arts Centire (01202 685222). Tonight, 7.30pm. (5)

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iii CANDIDE: Great songs in Bernstein's musical drawn from Voltaire.
John Caird and Trevor Nunn direct
an excellent cast led by Daniel Evans,
Alex Kelly and Simon Russell Beale,
Offivier (0171-452 3000).

MAMMA MRAI: Musical based on the songs of Abba; Siobhan McCarthy and Lisa Stokke play mother and daughter on the eve of the gird's wedding. Phyllida Lloyd

Prince Edward (0171-447 5400). ☐ THE GIN GAME: Dorothy Tutin and Jose Ackland play old folk in a retirement home whose card-playing styles echo their sad lives. Frith Banbury directs a surprising Pulitzer

Savoy (0171-836 8888). (5) ☐ THE PRISONER OF SECOND AVENUE: Richard Dreytuss and Marsha Mason make their British stage debuts in Neil Simon's play M GOOD: C.P.Taylor's best play, tracing a liberal professor's gradual descent into working with the Nazis. Charles Dance heads a strong cast, historical Countries dispute. Micheel Grandage directs, Domner (0171-389 1732) (5)

☐ THE COLONEL BRRD: Bulgarian author Hristo Boytchev's award-winning play about an asylum taken over by the lunatics. Rupert Gould directs, Gate (0171-229 0706). ⑤

☐ BLOOD KNOT: Barry Wallman and Gordon Case star in Athol Fu-gard's updated version of his cele-brated black and white brothers pla TALES OF A CITY: Life after a ceta-strophe, told as a mixture of cheams and memories by Macedonian writer Goran Stevenowski. Sandy Meberley directs for Theetre Melange. Warehouse, Croyslon (0181-800-4080). ☐ GROSS INDECENCY: The Three Trinis of Oncer Wilde: Michael Penington plays Wilde in Moises Kautman'a play. Gleigad (0171-494 5085).

FILMS ON GENERAL RELEASE

James Christopher's choice of the latest movies

NEW RELEASES A CIVIL ACTION (15): Meety court-room drams with John Travolas and

two sharks in a case about toxic dumping. Steven Zailian directs. BEDROOMS & HALLWAYS (15): Playful romantic comedy about mal-bonding with Simon Callow splendic miscast as a heterosexual New Age Svengall, Rose Troche directs.

MO (15): Robert Lepage's supple, black comedy forms a psychedeli-chain of coincidences between a Caradian actress and her bomb-

THE FACULTY (15): Fishy sci-fi the PACOLITY (15): Frany sci-fi chiller with high comedy quota from Kevin Williamaon. A faculty of school teachers get faltert over by ellion squids from outer space. Director Robert Rodriguez flogs the craeping paranoia with seat-clutching wit. SLAM (15): Soul Williams outs in a sensational performance as a bit rap post caught up in the Washik prison system. A gritty document style film by Marc Levin.

HIGH ART (18): Ally Sheedy and Radha Mitchell spread lesbian gloom

ORGAZMO (18): Tube station ele vators are more exciting than this ghastly canoon spoof on the Holly-wood porn industry. Trey Parker

CURRENT

TEA WITH MUSSOLINE (PG): Flashes of dry humour illuminate Zetärell's tribute to the English spiristers who raised him in Florence before Mussolini jailed them. With Maggie Smith, Joan Plowright, and Judi Dench. PLUNKETT & MACLEANE (15): Jake Scott's 18th-century swashbucker is mildly amusing if you like being mugged, With Robert Carlyle and Jonny Lee Miller.

BLAST FROM THE PAST (12): An ingenious comedy about a man (Brenden Fraser) released efter 35 years in a nuclear bunker. Bill Kelly directs.

THE NIGHT OF THE HUNTER (12): THE NIGHT OF THE HUNTER (12): Charles Laughton's only siab at directing is a Tom Sawyer versus Sweeney Todd rightmart. Robert Mitchum'a crooked preacher is unfor gottable. A classic 1955 fear movie.

Hoist by their own bombast

t was a crucial test of public taste and critical forgiveness when the Cranberries played their first full show for more than two years at the Shepherds Bush Empire on Monday. Dormant since their third album, For the Faithful Departed. earned relatively poor sales and merciless reviews in 1996, the Irish foursome who have notched up album sales of nearly 30 million made this low-key concert the first step

in their comeback campaign. In the spiralling, hiccuping, piercing yodel of singer and lyricist Dolores O'Riordan. the Cranberries can lay claim to one of the most original and emotive voices in pop. But O'Riordan is also responsible for some of its most monumentally crass lyrics, veering from exquisite to excruciating with

alarming regularity. The good news is that this wholesome Limerick quartet have partially rediscovered their melodic, folkish roots on their archly titled new album, Bury the Hatchet. The bad news is that they did not quite manage to incorporate this shift back towards subtlety in the cramped confines of the Empire. A newly blonde O'Riordan seemed to be locked in stadium-rock siren mode for much of the 90-minute set. prowling the stage and punching the sky as she roughly manhandled brittle anthems which deserved far more care

and compassion. Admittedly there were moments of beauty amid the bluster, including early airings for the sparkly acoustic gems Ode to My Family and Linger. inese remain O'Kiordan's most personal lyrics, pre-fame compositions which lack the formulaic ring of more recent efforts, and even ber faltering voice could not entirely erase their quiet majesty. At least one number from the new alburn, the tremulous luliaby Saving Grace, tapped into a similar mood of sparse serenity, but otherwise the singer made little emotional connec-

tion with an expectant crowd. The remainder of the set alternated between anodyne new material such as You and Me and Delilah and footstomping, chest-beating tan-trums which gave full rein to the band's least attractive qualities. Nor was there much evidence in either the recent single Promises or the new album



track Desperate Andy that the Cranberries have evolved beyond bludgeoning half-tunes and clumsy sloganeering.

The foursome ended this unsatisfying comeback show without reclaiming much ground from their detractors, leaving behind a vague sense opportunity squandered. They may no longer embrace mid-Atlantic stadium-rock banality quite as unequivocally as they did a few years ago, but they also appeared equally uncomfortable with the mellifluous ballads which brought them recognition in the first place. Hence the encore revival of their earliest hit, Dreams, a once elegant shimmer now into something

lumpen and uncouth. Their forthcoming world tour may revive the old spark, but for now the Cranberries seem stranded between the sublime and the ridiculous, milking a limited repertoire of weary vocal tics and increasingly graceless melodies.



When you're cool you're hot

t is 20 years, almost to the month, since Echo and the Bunnymen released their first record, ten years since the band split un two years since they reformed. It is a familiar rock story, one that usually ends unhappily in a misalliance of cynicism and nostalgia. But Echo and the Bunnymen seem to have defied convention. Their acclaimed new album, What Are You Going To Do With Your Life?, signals an imaginative change of direction, in which youthful bombast makes way for a bruised vulnerability. Singer Ian McCulloch is even Man of the Month

in GQ magazine. Strangely, perhaps, the new record forms only a small part of their current live show. Its gentle tunes are left until a third of the way through. Then Baby Rain, with its soothing melody and piano trills.

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stands in stark contrast to the guitar-driven rock of the openng numbers, with their debt to the Doors and the Velvet Underground. The set rewards loyal fans with past glories from the Bunnymen catalogue: the wailing guitar of The Cutter, the melodrama of The Killing Moon. Although only McCulloch and guitarist Will Sergeant remain from the original line-up, they are not just recycling the past. The lightshow is a lavish affair. mixing bright flashes, sparkling cascades and soothing swirls. Dry ice billows across

the stage. For all this, the focus of attention is McCulloch, as mood-



Hecklers beware: Ian McCulloch is back

ily cool as ever. Dressed in black leather jacket and shades, he exudes a supreme self-confidence. He said little until towards the end of the band's UEA gig, when a heckler started to rile him. In the last number. Do it Clean, Mc-Culloch began to taunt his critic, reeling off lines of abuse in

a deep Liverpool accent, between extemporising another verse and mimicking James Brown's Sex Machine. It gave тие репогталсе а tense finale. There was one moment

though, when the cool cracked. It happened when McCulloch sang the title track from the new album. He seemed to be addressing the audience. like a concerned parent pleading with a dissolute teenager, but what made it touching was the realisation that he was asking the question of himself too - and that he doesn't know the answer.

They may not have achieved the pinnacles of their contemporaries (they were once bracketed with U2), but Echo and the Bunnymen are surviving pretty well - older, wiser, con-

JOHN STREET

Warp factor four

s their name suggests, Sex Mob occupy the . more irreverent — not to say downright laddish reaches of the jazz spectrum. To the genre-hopping restless-ness and hard-edged irony cus-tomarily associated with New York's Downtown scene they add a funky edge that makes their music instantly accessible. But even when they're playing material by Prince or Smashing Pumpkins their jazz credentials are obvious. After all, the band's leader, slidetrumpeter Steven Bernstein. has contributed his unique sound to the music of Carla Bley and the New York Composers' Orchestra - as well as to the grungy organ-centred sound of Medeski, Martin and Wood. So he is just as happy to explore the cultured elegance of Duke Ellington as the tight funk of Sly Stone.

The quartet began their first set with a relatively simple riff from bassist Tony Scherr. soon augmented by the snappy drums of Kenny Wollesen



before alto saxophonist Briggan Krauss joined Bernstein in a wailing free-for-all over the pounding beat. Such sim-plicity — straightforward rhythmic riffs culminating in musical mayhem - formed the basis of the band's approach through both their subsequent sets, but the apparently uncomplicated nature of their sound concealed a mass of improvisational adroitness and considerable subtleties of dynamics and texture.

Much of this subtlety had its source in Bernstein's alternately woozy and strident trumpet playing, and in its contrast with Krauss's raucous abrasiveness, but a good deal was attributable to Wollesen. Scraped cymbals, added to Krauss's forays into stuck-pig squealing and Bernstein's smeared braying, brought an Mob's music at times, and the moaning sounds Wollesen produced from his rubbed drumskins took the New Yorkers' music about as far from the article usually referred to by the term acoustic jazz as it is possible to go.

The likes of Goldfinger, all dramatically smoothy trumpet and breathy alto, and a thundering visit to the Stones' Ruby Tuesday, proved perfect showcases for the band's irreverence, but it was their casually borne jazz-honed virtuosity that lifted Sex Mob's unequivocally enjoyable music way beyoud the realms of rude posturing suggested by their somewhat unfortunate name.

CHRIS PARKER

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ATHLETICS: LONDON MARATHON GIVES HAILE'S OLDER BROTHER OPPORTUNITY TO QUALIFY FOR OLYMPIC GAMES

Gebrselassie seeks capital gain

By David Powell, athletics correspondent

THE Olympic champion will be on the starting line, so too will the world record-holder and the world champion. Yet, when the Flora London Marathon unfolds on Sunday, the athlele with the name that carries the greatest weight in distance running today - Gebrselassie - will not be up at the front. Or, at least, his coach hopes not.

Tekeye Gebrselassie, the older brother of Haile, makes his first appearance in the London Marathon in an attempt to earn selection for the Olympic Games, Peter Kortekaas, his coach, does not doubt that the

In next week's Times, a full list of all the fioishers in the London Marathon

lesser-known Gebrselassie should achieve his aim. If only he remembers that he is not

"Run cautiously and qualify," Kortekaas will tell him. or go too fast and blow your opportunity." Not that Kortekaas is confident that his man will listen. Tekeye carries the weight of his brother's reputation with him. "Everybody says he is the brother of Haile and you can see it in the race. He goes off too fast."

The coach has set his athlete the task of breaking 2hr 11min 30sec, the Dutch qualifying time for Sydney 2000. While Haile remains the pride of Ethiopia, his brother acquired Dutch citizenship lası year. The important thing is for him to qualify for the Olympics," Kortekaas said. This he should achieve, according to Kortekaas, provided that he does not go off with the pacemakers with all the daring that has spirited his brother to 15 world records on the track.

"I would like to be there on a bike to keep an eye on him," Kortekaas added. "Like most Africans, you talk to him and say 'start easy, go in group two or three' and after the the first kilometre, you find him in group one. That is why I am careful to say what time he could run. I think he can run faster than 2hr 11min 30sec. but I am afraid he will start too quickly."

Haile Gebrselassie has run a marathon, but Tekeye holds the family record. Five years ago, in the Eindhoven Marathon, he ran 2hr 11min 45sec. while his brother's best is 2hr 52min, which he ran when he was aged 16. It is a marathon that Haile prefers to ignore: "My first marathon will be in Rotterdam in 2001," he has

Rotterdam is where you would expect Tekeye to be on Sunday, when the Dutch put on their marathon of the year. The flat course has proved to be an attraction for athletes seeking fast times and only last year Tegla Loroupe, from Kenya, set the women's world record there. Yet Kortekaas has put Gebrselassie on to the slower London course.

"In Rotterdam, all the other Dutch runners will be there trying to get the Olympic quali-fying time," Kortekaas said. "Some will start fast and, for Tekeye. London will be quiet, away from the publicity and pressure." That is being shouldered this week by Josiah Thugwane, the Olympic champion. from South Africa, Ronaldo da Costa, the world record-holder, from Brazil, and Abel Anton, the world

champion, from Spain. When Gebrselassie, came to Great Britain for the world half-marathon championships in 1992, he set a fashion for seeking political asy-



Da Costa, the world record-holder, will be one of the favourites to win the London Marathon. Photograph: Gill Allen

lum away from Ethiopia after races in Britain. Three years later, three of Gebrselassie's compatriots sought refuge in London the day after racing in the world cross country championships in Durham.

Only last month, two more Ethiopians deserted the team when the world cross country championships came to Belfast. "He does not like to talk about it, but he was supposed to go into the Army and that was not what he wanted," Kortekaas said. In the year that Tekeye deserted Ethiopia, Haile was winning double

gold at the world junior championships and his emergence as an athlete of distinction over the next two years, together with the country's political changes, spared him the call from the Army.

For the past four months, Tekeye has been training with Haile in a small group of elite African athletes, just outside Addis Ababa. "It has been good for him to be home training with good runners. Tekeye lives in Holland and has a Dutch passport, but he still feels that Ethiopia is home," Kortekaas said, "He trains

twice a day and lives only for running. He is always looking at his brother, seeing what he has done. He wants to do that, only in the marathon."

Tekeye had better jump to it. because time is not on his side. Haile takes up the distance in two years from now, when we may see the two-hour mara-





Thugwane: champion

BOWLS: END OF AN ERA AS ENGLAND STALWART CALLS IT A DAY

Advancing years prove Bell's final toll

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

IN ICE HOCKEY: Ian Taylor, the chief executive of the Sekonda Superleague, has revealed that five potential buyers are ready to take over Sheffield Steelers, who went out of business yesterday. Taylor is to investigate the business credentials of all the prospective new owners of a club, whose financial problems have finally taken their toll. followers, because the name of John Bell was absent from the

ATHLETICS: Overseas competitors who train in Australia leading up to the Olympic Games in Sydney next year will be Howson, the chief executive of the Australia Sports Drug Agency, said: "We won't be a safe haven for drug cheats."

SPORT IN BRIEF

Five bid for Steelers' stock

SAILING: The attempt by Azhar Mansor, of Malaysia, to set a record for sailing solo around the world has ended after 69 days. His yacht's mast snapped in three pieces near Cape Horn yesterday. He set out on his journey of 26,100 nautical miles from Langkawi, a Malaysian island, on February 2.

GOLF: Lee Westwood's post-tournament celebrations at the Masters caused him to miss his flight to his next tournament. the Macau Open, which starts tomorrow. Westwood's 20-hour journey will hardly be ideal preparation for the Macau event.

THE announcement of the teams for the international trial at New Lount, Leicestershire, next month prompted gasps of surprise from bowls

50-strong squad. Bell, one of the great characters of the sport, made his first for his country in 1978 and has played in 21 consecutive series. The director of tourism for Carlisle, he has retired from international

bowls at the age of 51. "Physically, the old rugby war-wounds that savage knees and backs do not relent," he said ruefully. "Mentally, the easing of any determination to win and readiness to accept defeat are sure signs that the full spark required for

By DAVID RHYS JONES

so brightly." In other words, he is now too old to cope with the hurly-burly of international competition in a sport that people used to take up in retirement. In the past 30 years, the average age national teams has gone

down from the middle 50s to

top match play is not glowing

the late 20s. Bell, an all-round sportsman who represented Cumbria at rugby and cricket, first qualified for the national championships as a teenager in 1966 and went on to win the England singles in 1983, pairs in 1991 and triples in 1976 and

1991. He represented England in five world outdoor championships, winning the fours title twice — in 1964 and 1996. He also took part in the Common-wealth Games in Victoria and Kuala Lumpur.

His 67 appearances in the home internationals constitute a record that he shares with in second place, in the ranking list of England's most-capped players, behind the incomparable David Bryant, who played 81 times for his country on grass. Bell's retirement makes way for the introduction of Nicky Jones, from Bourne-

The questions of whether bowls is a spectator sport and whether slow play should be penalised arise whenever it

takes more than four bours to complete a fours match of 21 ends, or a triples match of eighteen. The national indoor triples quarter-final between Chip-

ping Norton and Avon Valley at Melton Mowbray yesterday lasted 5hr 25min, but always held the attention. tainment and the fact that it lasted so long was simply

down to the number of dead ends," John Fulcher, the chairman of the competitions committee, said. Chipping Norton won through 15-13 and were joined in the semi-finals by Stanley,

Blackpool Borough and Results, page 41

RUGBY UNION

Offers flood in for Quinnell's robust service

By MARK SOUSTER

CRAIG QUINNELL will have no shortage of new emplayers from which to choose should he decide to leave Richmond when his contract expires this summer. Quinnell, 23, who played for Wales against England at Wembley. on Sunday, has been inundated with offers from clubs in England, Wales and France.

Mike Burton, Quinnell's agent, confirmed interest from Gloucester, Harlequins and Bristol, of the Allied Dunbar Premiership, Llanelli and Pontypridd, in Wales, and Bourgoin, of France. Burton said: "Although he is under contract at Richmond, because of the situation there with the administrators, he will be a free agent if things are not sorted out in

Bourgoin have made the firmest offer to date, but one wonders whether Quinnell would want to play in France. If he has to leave Richmond, where is is said to be happy. he might opt to follow Scott, his brother, back to Lianelli.

One club that has not yet en-tered the bidding is Cardiff, whose chief executive, Gareth Davies, confirmed he is leaving the club at the end of June to concentrate on his new role as chairman of the Sports Council for Wales. Davies has been at Cardiff for five years and has been at the helm during the recent stand-off with the Welsh Rugby Union. He said yesterday: "It has certainly been a great experience. There have been many ups and downs, but I would like to think that Cardiff has played its part in moving the profes-

sional game forward. Neil Jenkins, whose goal-kicking denied England a grand slam in the Five Nations Championship, will un-dergo a long-delayed shoulder operation today, which means that he will miss Pontypridd's match against Ebbw Vale to-night. His place goes to Ceri Sweeney, 18, the top scorer for Wales Under-19 in the recent

FIRA tournament, Colin Charvis, who was injured in the tackle by Tim Rod-ber that later led to Wales's match-winning try on Sun-day, is doubtful for Swansea's SWALEC Cup semi-final against Cross Keys this Sunday. Charvis has a suspected fracture of the cheekbone which, if confirmed, will side-

line him for a month. Although Wales's victory ensured that Scotland won the championship at England's expense, Jim Telfer, the Scotland coach, believes that Clive Woodward's team has the necessary qualities to win the World Cup. Winning the com-

petition is a realistic expecta-

tion for England and France if they can sort themselves out? Telfer said. "England have used the Five Nations as a stepping stone. They have already beaten South Africa and they win when it really mar-

And Carried And Ca

Despite the remarkable turnaround in their fortunes. Telfer plays down Scotland's chances this autumn, despite having home advanatge in the pool matches. They start with a match against South Africa, the world champions, at Murrayfield, on October 3.

South Africa will be com ing off the back of the Tri-Nations Series and, once they get on to the world stage, they are very difficult to beat." Telfer continued. "We have improved since the autumn, so I am expecting a cracker." His one concern is the serious injury to Eric Peters. who is not expected to be fit until September after breaking a knee cap. "I hope the doctors are right and he will be ready by then,

Austin Healey, who ended an eight-week suspension by sit-ting among the Eogland re-placements for the international against Wales last Sunday, will return to action this evening in the bope of returning to the Leicester XV to play Saracens in the Allied Dunbar Premiership on Satur-day. Healey, who was banned after a stamping incident con-cerning Kevin Putt, of Lon-don Irish, will play for the Leicester second XV against Loughborough Studeots.

but he will be pushing it a bit to make the two pre-tournament games against Argentina," Telfer said.

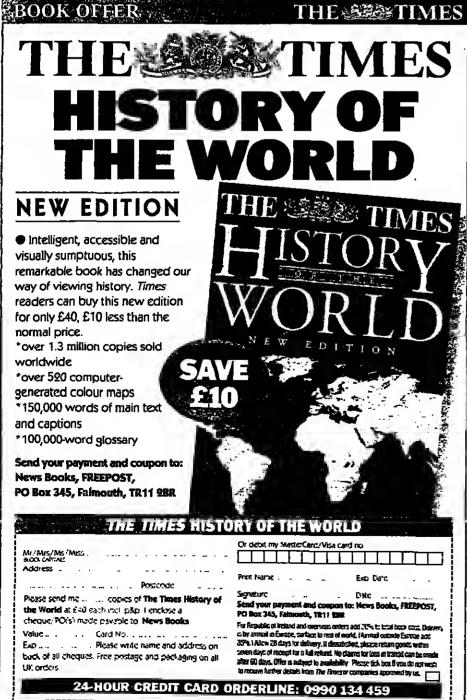
Nigel Wray, who stepped down as chairman of Nottingham Forest Football Club this week, has reiterated his continued support for Saracens. "They are my first love." he said. "Rugby union is a game I played for 30 years. I will see

the job through there."
Pat Howard, now based in
England, may get a call-up to replace Stephen Larkham, the injured Australia fly half. Rod Macqueen, the coach, said yesterday: "Pat is an option. there's no doubt about that, He's playing for Leicester, but he's still available to play for Australia."

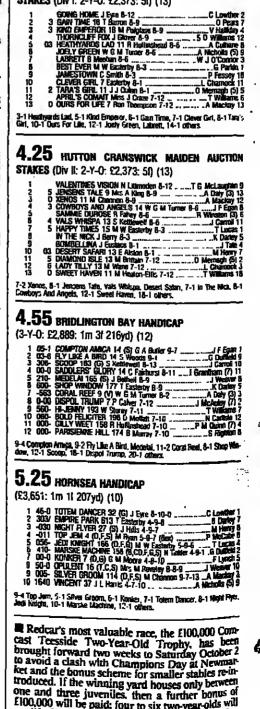
However, Macqueen is also pleased with the progress of two other fly halves - Christian Warner and Nathan Spooner, of New South Wales and Queensland respectively. If their Super 12 form remains strong, they should get the nod ahead of Howard.

3.55 HUTTON CRANSWICK MAIDEN AUCTION

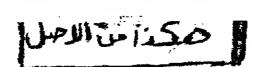
STAKES (Div I: 2-Y-O: £2,373: 5f) (13)







£100,000 will be paid; four to six two-year-olds will qualify for £50,000, and between seven and nine earns £25,000.



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Valentine Waltz steps into limelight

BY CHRIS MCGRATH

ACCUSTOMED to wearing a lovely summer frock for racedays, the July course at Newmarket yesterday shivcred through a raw afternoon of hail squalls and pale sunshine. At its conclusion, Valentine Waltz was still available at lo-I for the Sagitta 1,000 Guineas despite an emphatic success in the Shadwell Stud Nell Gwyn Stakes. All in all, Flat racing's headquarters could emerge from hiberna-tion to reflect, with Shakespeare, on "the uncertain glory of an April day". Conditions were bleakly

familiar from the Craven meeting's usual home — over on the Rowley Mile. which is closed during construction of a new grandstand - but so are the sort of bright hopes inspired by the likes of Valentine Waltz. Three days here, followed by cards at Newbury on Friday and Saturday, provide the classic generation with a week either to blossom or be nipped in the bud.

In fairness to Newmarket. the paddock was girdled with a gorgeous bed of spring flowers and there was a corresponding bloom to Valentine Waltz, who has a pretty white heart on her forehead and evidently a brave one in her chest, too.

For much of the seven-furlong journey she was stuck on the rail behind Hawriyah, but when the leader drifted under pressure at the furlong pole she burst through under Frankie Dettori. Eating up the confident of her progress

1.35 Quiet Dignity

2.35 Duck Row

2.05 Return Of Amin

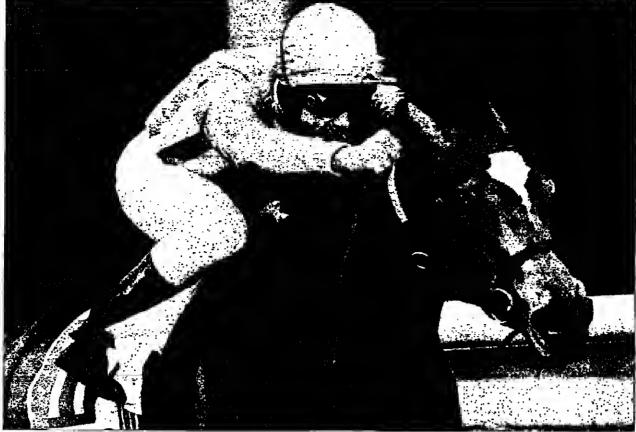
5.20 EASTERN CHAMP (nap).

1.35 WOOD DITTON STAKES

(Div I: 3-Y-O: £4,565; 1m) (12 runners)

2.U3 GRANTCHESTER RATED HANDICAP

(£10,042; 7f) (20 runners)



Valentine Waltz and Dettori stretch for the line in the Shadwell Stud Nell Gwyn Stakes at Newmarket yesterday

ground, she quickly went three lengths clear, with Circle Of Gold finishing best of the remainder in third.

Valentine Waltz had ended an industrious juvenile campaign with just a Brighton maiden success from seven starts, but John Gosden was

NEWWARKET

3.45 Alberich

4.45 Nasaieb

5.20 Cloudy Sky

4.15 Musical Treat

ROB WRIGHT

Our Newmarket correspondent: 1.35 Swan Knight, 2.05 Stanott,

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM TOTE JACKPOT MEETING DRAW: NO ADVANTAGE SIS

BETTING 5-2 Swan Kinght, 4-1 Quiet Dignity, 6-1 Captam Blign, Manndar, 13-2 Whitepering Wind, 14-1 Who Cares Wire. Ferting Cookid, 16-1 others.

KUWART BIRD (Greenfield Stud) K Mahdis 9-0 J Dednin
MANNDAR R HR H AN BIRDNI L Currier) 9-0 J Fortime
PARKSIDE (The Parkside Parintership) W Muir 9-0 Martin Dayer
SWAN KWEST (Shelih Moharmand) J Gosdon 9-0 L Dettori
MYHSPERING WHID (M J Abatistom) E Jumilio 9-0 T Cultim
WHO CARIES WINS (K Destrict) E Initiali 9-0 P Robinson
HORTUME COOKE (In S. John Callier & Mrs. S Colley) J Factions 8-9 R Cuchania
MSHOR (Mrs. J Prescript) W Jayers 8-9 M Tebburt
CURET DISNITY (W Gredley) B HINS 8-9 M HINS

1998: THE SANDELY 8-9 M HMs (20-1) 8 HMs 19 san

Long handicap: No Edras 8-3, Showboat 8-2, Terreraire 8-1, Terdem 7-11, Dushanbe 7-11.

BETTING: 7-1 Daylight in Dubar, Stanott, 8-1 Harmonic Way, 10-1 Free Option, Epsom Cyclone. Sally Jack, Shondosa, Al Macilim, 12-1 Departing Lady, Kurnati, Return Ol Amin, Emerging Maritet, 16-1 Tumbleweed

1998: TUMBLEWEED RIDGE 5-9-3 M Tebbut (14-11 B Mochan 18 ran

STANOTT won on his reappearance last season and could reward support in what looks a very competitive heat. The existence point to Luca Current's other horses being best caught hist time out and mis son of Muhandomani, second in a fisted race at San Siro (1m) on his final sair last year, may have got in lightly on his handicap bow. Barry Hills has started the season particularly well and boars a Long hand with Epsom Cyclone and Showboat. Further rain would help the lorner who showed his filting for an easy surface when beating Carranala will at Salisbury (61, heavy) lest September. He is induced the property of the season beating the season particularly lest september. He is induced the best of the trace and after orderegoing a wind operation into white, while Showboat, 9th better of his the 2% he was become into third by Tumbleweed Ridge in this race last year, starts his campaign on a handy mark Kurman may do better for his reappearance of flouring in Hill Nations at Kempton (6), holds several-placed Astrac), his first race since joining Ed Dunlop from Godolphin and being gelded. Emerging Market has shown his best form away from Newmarket.

BETTING: 7-2 Handcorne Ridge, Haarn, White Heart, 11-2 Shrva, 7-1 Duck Row, 10-1 Alboostan, 12-1 Green Card, Lear Scear, 25-1 others. 1998: APPREHENSION 4-8-10 D Holland [18-1] O Loder (Fit 7 ran

2.35 WEATHERBYS EARL OF SEFTON STAKES

(Group III: £20,000: 1m 110yd) (10 runners)

since. "She has been showing a great attitude in her work, where she used to hang and not look that interested," the trainer said. "We haven't done a lot with her, she has just been drawing up on the bridle, but she has done it with a lot

Minor knee surgery has

(Listed race; 3-Y-O: £17,150; 7f) (6 runners)

3.10 victor chandler european free handicap

BETTING: 3-1 Vision Of Might, 7-2 Indiana Legend, 4-1 Bertolini, 9-2 Undelerred, 11-2 Caballero, 7-1 Kalidasa

1996: DESERT PRINCE 9-6 D Pesies (7-1) D Loder (F) 9 cm

John Dunlop said the Free Handicap could prove "just the
race" for VISION OF NIGHT in 9 recent interview and the
claims pi this dual winner have to be respected. The son of
Night Shift copied with the transition to group company when a creditable 4%1 bird to Lojain, "Al
behind second-placed Bertolini (21b worse off), in she Middle Park Stakes (66) last October and may be
better suited by this exha furlang than the numer-up, Indiana Legend showed very useful form when 31
bourth in Drope in the FHY Morry at Deauville and when short-hasded by Golden Stica in the Mail Reel
Stakes (both over 6f) test season. He may not have been at his best when beaten a head by Undetected
(same terms) at York (6f) in October (yesterdey's Neil Cwyn winner Valentine Watz in thrif) and is
ancied to reverse placings here. Cataloder showed this best form last season when dropped back to 51
and finishing 19/1 fourth to Sheer Viking in the Flying Childers at Doncaster. He may prove best at
sprint distances, while Kalidasa proved disappointing on her reappearance at Kempton (1m).

SETTING: 3-1 Alberich, 4-1 Rainbow Ways, 9-2 Hair, 6-1 Minwel, 8-1 Lances, 12-1 Just in Time, Wave Ol Optimism, 14-1 others.

1998: RAISE A PRINCE 5-8-12 N Day (12-1) S Woods 21 tan

1996: RAISE A PHINCE 54-72 N bay (12-1) 5 Woods 21 an

Hair found the ground boo heavy when a well-beaten fourth to

Continued at Haydock (1m 41) on his reappearance, it would
be no surprise to see him bounce book, but a safet bet is the

ulva-consistent MINIVET He suffered a slipped saddle on his final start test year after classing home
Night City in a claimer at York (1m 2). A mark of 75 appears very lair. Rainbow Ways runs without the
blinkers that served him so well last backend and could prove less of 9 threat than Alberich. This
lightly-faced sort defied 9 similarly lengthy abcence when beating Murghem 151 at York (1m 41) oft 9

4th lower mark last September. Lancer found little off the bridle when leighth of 17 to Prince Micholas
at Duncaster (1m 41) on his return but may improve for that outling.

and Treal, 9-2 firmina, 13-2 instituate, 10-1 Gold Angel, Spoontel Of Sugar, Sublat, 12-1 others. 1998: SULTANA 8-11 R Perham (50-1) J G Smyth-Ostourne 15 ran

CLOUDY SKY (Lord Weinstock) Set M Stoute 9-0 R Hills
EASTERN CHAMP (P Ctx) S Woods 9-0 J Fortune
HARLEGIAN DANGER (C 15 Razing Patnership) J Gozden 9-0 L Destine
HARLEGIAN DANGER (C 15 Razing Patnership) J Gozden 9-0 K Roberts
OCTANE (Buckarn bak Holdings) H Cord 9-0 M Roberts
OCTANE (Buckarn bak Holdings) H Cord 9-0 K Fation
ORD STREET (Gozdato Pectoun) A Kelleway 9-0 P Fredericts (S)
ROMAN CANDLE (Exors Late Set W Satisfact) C Weil 9-0 A Wholan
MANDLE (Exors Late Set W Satisfact) C Weil 9-0 Base (Piled

Wins Rors

4.45 MGK SPARK PLUGS BARTLOW MAIDEN FILLIES STAKES

BETTING: 3-1 Lady Sarka. 4-1 Seazun, 9-2 Pussie William, 11-2 Indeedyedo, 8-1 Hoh Dear, 10-1 others.

5.20 WOOD DITTON STAKES (Div II: 3-Y-0: £4,533: 1m) (12 numbers)

7 (11) HJMAN CARRILLE (2005 LIZE SIT W SALEZIOLO) C Wall 9-0 A WHORD (4) WOODCOTE WARRIOR IA PENY) R Harmon 9-0 Bane D'Neill 9 (6) KERALBA (K Abdulla) B Halls 8-9 Par Eddery 10 (9) SHOWY FANGE (Hearmonts Stud J. Moseda 8-9 W Ryan 11 (10) SPANKER (R Heinforscorth) B Hills 8-9 D. Hotland 12 (2) SWEET EMOTION (M al-Maitourn) E Deniop 8-9 G Carter 8ETTING: S-2 Cloudy Sty, 3-1 Oceans, 5-1 Keralba, 13-2 Spanier, 12-1 Harlequin Dancer, 14-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

4.15 GEOFFREY BARLING MAIDEN FILLIES STAKES

(3-Y-O: £4,500: 7f) (14 runners)

(2-Y-0: £4,305: 5f) (9 junners)

3.45 SCOTTISH EQUITABLE/JOCKEYS ASSOCIATION

HANDICAP [SHOWCASE RACE] (£6,492: 1m 4f) (13 runners)

1998: DESERT PRINCE 9-5 0 Pester (7-1) D Loder (Fr) 9 ran

more enthusiasm."

more credibly the part than when veterinary examination prevented her intended sale last year. Her owners have cause for relief now that she is quoted at just 10-1 for the Guineas by the Tote, albeit she is 16-1 with the other leading firms and the runner-up is

helped Valentine Waltz look

apparently not held in high esteem. Though they did not go especially fast and the time was modest. Gosden is optimistic that the winner will stay the extra furlong in the classic. He did emphasise, however. that she would not want the ground any softer. Dettori, who sounds likely

Fallon also scored on Billy McCaw in the William Hill Handicap and Bahamian Bandit in the Boadicea Stakes, the latter completing a double for Richard Hannon after Bold Edge made most in the NGK Spark Plugs Abernant Stakes.

Bradley charged, page 44

to ride Etizaaz for Godolphin in the Guineas, added: "She

quickened up real good and

any filly that wins a trial by

three lengths has got to be a

live candidate." Their success

helped lend the substance of

action to some words of bold

intent from Dettori, who is

determined to put a rather

look after myself too much, to

avoid getting suspended or in-

jured," he said. "But basically

that's not my style." Even so,

his cosmopolitan excursions

with Godolphin mean that his

championship effort must be reduced to "giving it a good go

Though Dettori promptly

added Lionhearted m the

Stetchworth Maiden, Kieren

Fallon's defence certainly

looks too earnest to permit his

rivals much bluster. The

champion rode a treble for dif-

ferent trainers, most notably

Ramruma for Henry Cecil in

the April Maiden. Though

weak in the market, the Diesis

filly was strong enough at the finish to earn a Vodafone

Oaks quote of 20-1 from Coral.

Cecil said: "She's unfurnished

and will make a lot of improve-

ment with the sun on her back.

You never know."

and counting at the end".

"I was perhaps trying to

unfulfilled 1998 behind him.

Murphy faces ban at whip inquiry

TIMMY MURPHY could face a lengthy ban if found to be in breach of the latest whip guidelines at an inquiry of the Jockey Club's disciplinary

Portman Square by the Aintree stewards over his use of the whip on Juyush, pulled

evated for the next couple of days and get plenty of rest.

There is no problem riding with the stitches in, provided it is not too painful, so with a bit of luck, I could even be back on Saturday."

committee today.

Murphy was referred to up behind Istabrag in the Martell Aintree Hurdle.

In changes to the whip instructions, which took effect on March I this year, any jockey found to be in breach of the rules in a grade or group one race is automatically referred to the Jockey Club.

If the disciplinary committee also find the jockey in breach they will suspend him for a minimum of ten days. The suspension dates will normally take effect on consec-

utive days. like any other ban. However, the disciplinary committee will also have the flexibility to choose on which

days the suspension should apply, although it is anticipated that they will only use this power in exceptional circumstances.

Murphy is the first jockey to be referred to the stewards of the Jockey Club for the use of the whip in a grade one

Andrew Thornton has not ruled out a return to action as soon as this Saturday, despite needing eight stitches in his left leg at Kelso on Monday.

"I really was pretty lame at Kelso, but by the time I got home last night I was walking about again. I was signed off for four days by the doctor and I am just doing as I am told - I have to keep the leg el-



CHELTENHAM

2.20 Zaitoon 4.05 Lady Of Gortmerron (nap) 4.35 Daraydan 5.10 Masamadas 2.55 Kinnahalla

3.30 Wilmott's Fancy Timekeeper's top rating: 2.20 RELKANDER

READING THE RACECARD

101 113143 GOOD TIMES 13 (BF,F,G,S) (Mrs O Robinson) 8 Hall 12-0 B West (7) 88

Racecard number So-figure form (F—fell, P—pulled up U—unscalled nder B—brought down. S—slipped up. B—refused. D—disqualified. Horre's name. Days since last outing. F of fist i B—blinkers. H—brough E—Europeald.

CD-course and distance winns. BF-beaten tavounte in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F-hirm, good to firm, hard G-good. S-soft, good to soft,

2.20 LYNX EXPRESS NOVICES HANDICAP CHASE

(£5,836; 2m 5f) (17 junners)	
1 541P35 REAGANESOUE 18 (F.G.S) (Mrs. J. Spletman) P Marphy 7-11-10 R Farrant	98
2 062827 MUNTHUE 26 (0,6,5) (Mrs. M Tulnell) R Roue 7-11-9 R Digregordy	113
3 -1P225 ACT IN 1996: 28 (CD).5) (Mrs G McFerran) T George 7-11-8 R Waldev	114
40122722 ZAITOUN 75 (F.G.S) (Cheltentian Racing List) D Nicholson 9-11-8R Johnson	116
5 30-2PP CAPIDIAC APPLEST 14 ID Zeitmant Miss H Knight 6-11-7 M A Fibrerald	111
6 UZPSZT SPECIALIZE 8 (B.O.F.G.S) (P Brazieri K Burke 7-11-3 (Sm.) A P McCov	108
7 035120 PHOSE OF KASHMIR 21 (B.D.F.G) (F & C Berry) P Hobbs 6-11-0 G Torruev	73
B /114P- RAINCHECK 341 (T.O.F) (Mrs G Worsley) M Campion 8-11-0	_
9 /PZPT3 MR JERVIS 65 (S) (F Rosensber's Wildow & Son) J Galoud 10-10-12 P Hilde	107
TU PT 1822 GRATE DEEL 9 (D.F.G.S) (Mrs M. Astroy) Mrs S Smoth 9-10-11	1D1
11 Z24Z21 SANTA JET 8 (D.F.G.S) IG Edutades G M Moore 8-10-10 (Sea) N Hannity (S)	188
12 S2143F HEAD FOR HEAVEN 11 (S) (Foray Racing & Naim) R Hoad 9-10-9 I R Kawananh	114
13 125331 NELKANDEH 18 (F.G) (Mrs M. Burklev) Mrs. J. Pitman 9-10-8	1733
14 67F4P3 CLOU MOPPER 21 (F.S.) (1 Parroll) Widlams 9-10-4	\mathbf{m}
15 P24223 RELLY MAC 11 (B.F.G.S) (Mrs V (TBuen) D (TBuen 9-10-7	119
16 PO-PP3 TRILEY GALE 18 (D Smith) J S Smith 7-10-0	111
17 PP-3SP CHEHRY DRCHID 9 (E Steward) J R Hughes 12-10-0 J Magdard (7)	_
Long handicap: Tirley Gale 9-6, Cherry Orchid 8-10	
RETTINGS 5-1 Religancies 6-1 Santa let 7-1 Marriana 8-1 Zalloom Champion David 10-1 has to 1	ime

BETTIMES: 5-1 HEIGHTON, 5-1 Sama Jef, 7-1 Montine, 8-1 Zalloon, Specialize, Grane Deel Head For Heaven, Aelly Mac, 18-1 offices. 1998: FLAT TOP 7-10-10 R Thomson (11-2) M W Easterby 13 Ian

1998: FLAT TOP 7-10-10 R Thomton (11-2) M W Excerby 13 can

Specialize won easily at Utboeter eight days ago and is likely
to make a bold bird to follow up. A here through Dovetto, who
finished second that day, gives him the clear beating of Clod
Hopper and Pride Of Kashmir. The one to be on, though, looks ACT in TINE. He made all over course
and distance on his cometact in Decorative (only 7th tugher three) and confirmed his lifting for
Prestbury Park when fifth to the rill-lated Designides in the Rational Hunt Chase (4m) at the Festival
meeting last oronth — being bong in comention three out only to run out of petrol. In between those
efforts he had been anything but dispraced when chasing home Kurakia (at Sandown) and Looks Lie
Trouble (the subsequent SurAllience Chase emmes). He meets noting of their californ here. Santa Jet
Trouble (the subsequent SurAllience Chase emmes). He meets noting of their californ here. Santa Jet
granted levered for his consciency when slamming farate beed by 21 at Westerbry (3m Til) last week but
that was a week race and Relicander, who shored a gleasing attrude when rallying to beat Heavens
Above a neck at Newtoury (24-m) last time, makes more appeal.

2.55 GOLDEN MILLER HANDICAP CHASE

(£8,247; 3m 2f 110yd) (10 runners) BETTING: 7-2 Gigi Beach, 4-1 Coole HRI, 9-2 Kinnsholfs, 13-2 Moortand Highliyer, 8-1 Malwood Castle, 9-1 In Truth, 10-1 Paratesuty, 12-1 The Gogher, 16-1 God Speed You, 20-1 Father Sty. 1996: KENDAL CAVALIER 8-10-11 D Salter (6-1) B Millman 11 ran

1998: KENDAL CAVALIER 8-10-11 0 Salter (6-1) B Millman 11 km.

COOLE Hall_ out of sorts on soft ground earlier this campaign, bounced back to form on 4 sound surface at Wincartion last time — beating Steel Moss easing down by 171. David Michalson's mare has been raised 8th for that win but is still after to race off a mark 6th over then at the start of the season and can bollow up. Gigl Beach guilled out all the stops to beat Kunabatia (has since won at Towcester) at Exeter (3m 6th and proved he was in good heart when chasing home Prime Example at Kelso (4m) last time out. He tools the main danger Moorfand Highiffyer pot in one of his better counts of jumping when beating Flappack Lad 8th Chrystow last week and, Il picking up his leet again, would have each-way prospects, in Truth (out of form). The Sopher (may need the min), Parahamoty (expensive to follow), Malwood Castila (ran poorty lawst), God Speed You (soon tailed oft-on his betated return) and Father Sky (a rogue) are easy to pass over

3.30 FAUCETS FOR MIRA RADA SHOWERS 'NH'

AUCTION NOVICES HURDLE (£16,491; 2m 5l 110yd) (9 junners) BETTING: 5-2 Wilmott's Fancy, 9-2 Master Rastus, 8-1 Comor MacLeod, 7-1 Astigan, Koockara Fair, 8-1 Storm Castie, Powder Hound, 10-1 Frank Byros, Guillible Guy 1998: NO CORRESPONDING RACE.

WILMOTT'S FANCY has been a model of consistency all season and stands out on form. This wip suits her well and, in second of stands out on form. This wip suits her well and, in second of stands out on form, this wip suits her well and, in second of season and stands of the his strong suit, wenning easily at Taunton (3mt on his peruntimate start belong taking advantage of a fentent handicap mark at Dispector (3m) latest. This drop in trip is a concern. Storm Castle narrowly delegated Master Rastus at Taunton in January but he was furtured that day and, in any case, the numer-tup has improved some. Commor MacLeou'd is better than be showed at Ultropeter last time footled up on heavy online, while Jam Old rarely overtaces his bosses. so Frank Byrne, despite having shown only lumited abidity to date, warrants a second Fatr will be surted by this step up in distance but needs to brush up his jumping.

4.05 MITTE GROUP NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (£5,425: 3m 110yd) (16 runners)



1998: GANPATI 7-11-7 C Licrediyn (5-2 lav) N Teriston-Davies 18 Ian

4.35 PRESTBURY PARK HANDICAP HURDLE

(£6,814: 2m 5(110yd) (8 runners)
1 321444 L'OPERA 80 (S) (Shekin A si-Makoum) D Micholson 6-11-10
7 -3d346 DICTLMI 42 (F.S) (Mrs R Humphiles) Mrs H Knight 8-10-0 D Gallegher 114 8 -54511 KONSSDOWN TROX 9 (F.G) (Penhut Part'ship) R J Sonith 5-10-0 (Sex) J Goldsawn (3) 110
Long handicap: Dictum 9-9, Kingsdown Trix 9-3.
SETTING: 5-2 Daraydan, 3-1 L'Opera, 5-1 Kingsdown Tilx, 8-1 Call My Guest, 7-1 Bettes Offer, 8-1 Falmouth

1998: SPENDED 8-11-8 A Maguire (9-4 tay) D Nicholson 9 ran

5.10 GEORGE DULLER JUVENILE NOVICES HURDLE

(4-Y-O: £3,485: 2m 1f) (8 runners)	
1 312401 NEW BIRD 9 (D.F.S) (P Clinton) 0 Mcbokson 11-12 R. Johnson 94 2 1416917 18 (P) NV Surfy J Did 11-6 September 1321 MASAMADAS 19 (F) (Therite Throughbreds M) N Henderson 11-6 M A Respected 97 0301 STOPWATCH 9 (D.S) (Stopwatch Partnership) Mrs L Jevelt 11-6	
5 3152 EDWARDA 28 (BF.S) (R Statley & Y Reynolds) M Pipe 11-1	
8 P SALFORD 79 (Silver Cod Partnership) P R Webber 11-0 A McCarthy BETTING: 9-4 Masamadas, 7-2 Aligns, 9-2 New Bird, 11-2 Edwards, 13-2 Mothers Help, B-1 Stopwatch, 16-1	

COURSE SPECIALISTS

1998: NO CORRESPONDING RACE.

TRAINERS Miss V Willeris J King Mrs J Petroan C Marm O Sherwood J Old M Pipe R Aines D Micholson N Henderson	Wins 10 5 12 8 9 45 4 29	Rors 36 25 73 37 51 63 328 30 222 104	% 27.8 200 16.4 16.2 15.7 14.3 13.7 13.3 13.1 12.5	JOCKEYS A McCoy N Willamson R Durwoody M Fizoraid A Maguire W Marston R Farent C Llevellyn J J Magaiy 8 Pomeil	Wins 43 39 26 23 17 8 5 16 7	Rnrs 179 168 178 164 127 64 139 62 62	% 24.0 19.5 14.6 14.0 13.4 12.5 11.5 11.3



Six added to Derby

SIX new contenders for the Vodafone Derby have been entered at the race's second entry stage. The sextet -Adair, Bienamado, Chatting Killer Instinct, Montjeu and Val Royal — were entered at a cost of £8.000.

Adair was bought privately America by Sheikh chammed's Godolphin Mohammed's operation, having won his only outing in impressive style. Prince Ahmed Salman's operation, The Thoroughbred

Corporation, owns both the Henry Cecil-trained Killer Instinct and Chatting, trained by Sir Michael Stoute. The Peter Chappie-Hyam

" Bienamado, second to Spadoun when favourite for the group one Criterium de Saint-Cloud, will have his prep race for Epsom in either the Dante Stakes at York or the Prix Lupin at Longchamp.

Montieu and Val Royal are two unbeaten colts from

BLINKERED FIRST TIME SEVERIEY: 2.45 Uniold Riches, CHELT-ENHAM: 2.20 kely Mec. 2.55 Parahandy. 4.05 Shedirwan. NEWMARKET: 3.45 Glory



Celtic putting faith in sprint finish

Kevin McCarra feels it is unlikely that Rangers can be overhauled in the Scottish championship race

IT IS more danse macabre than waltz, but the Old Firm are clasped together. They only have eyes for one another. For a while, the pair were estranged in the Scottish Premier League, but two consecutive defeats for Rangers, coupled with Celtic's ebullience over recent months, have re-established the intimate, flery re-

Although separated by the breadth of the country, they en-

THERUNAN Dunfermline Attribute at Rangers Cetter. Kilmamock . St Johnstone Motherwell Heart of Midlo-thian. A six-point lead in point lead in Durfermine. Heart of Midlothian. A sixpoint lead in the table, with seven fixtures remaining, is the equivalent

May 22: Kimsmock (H)

May 22: Kimsmock (H)

Middethian (A). remaining, is the equivalent of Mcdothian (n., wow,)
May 22: Kimamock (H)
CELTIC: Today: Heart of Miclothian (A),
April 17: Motherwell (H), April 24: St. Odmstone (A); May 2: Pangass (H), May 8: Dunfermine Athletic (A); May 15: Aberdeer for the Ibrox

the battlefield. It is soaring morale that sustains Celoc in the fray. In the unending bout of one-upmanship, yesterday belonged to them. While Rangers introduced Claudio Reyna. their new signing from VIL Wolfsburg. Celtic, by no coincidence whatsoever, chose the same afternoon to trump their rivals with the announcement that Henrik Larsson had signed a new contract that will last until 2003.

The Sweden forward is the most impressive player to white hoops since Kenny

IN BRIEF

Dalglish and the attempts to re-sign him have been conducted over the past few months. Yet news of their successful outcome was released at a strategic moment. Allan MacDonaid has replaced Fergus Mc-Cann as chief executive and a triumphant beginning to his tenure has been engineered. Celtic, who have won six of

their past seven league matches, are undefeated since they last played Hearts, at Tynecastle, on Decem-

ber 6. Merriment feels incongruous to those who remember how short-tempered the club was early in the season, when the failure to make signings summer in Glasgow, moods. much the same

way as electri-

cal storms, are

and short-lived. Josef Venglos, the head coach, eventually dealt well in the transfer market and began to collect accolades. Attitudes, in a contrasting manner, have been just as transient for Dick Advocaat, the Rangers manager, who, ininally, was lauded as disciplinarian and tactical sophisti-

The virtues must still be there, but defeats by Dundee United and St Johnstone reawakened cantankerousness in the crowd. Advocaat's record in signings is flawed. Gabriel Amato, bought from



Larsson, the exciting Sweden forward, at Celtic Park yesterday after agreeing a new contract that will keep him at the club for the next four years

Real Mallorca for £4.5 million, cannot command a regular place and may be sold at a loss to Valencia. Stéphane Guivarc'h has had no more impact than he did at Newcastle United. Modest displays by Andrei Kanchelskis leave

his £5.5 million price tag looking like a coup for Fiorentina. All the same, such acquisitions will be treated as a harmless, family joke so long as Rangers collect trophies. Advocaat is likely to triumph.

Cup already and, after a sound 4-0 victory over St Johnstone in the semi-final, they will face the other half of the Old Firm in the Tennent's Scottish Cup final, Prospects in the championship are excel-

The gaze falls on Rangers' trip to Celtic Park on May 2. but that may not be the decisive fixture. Four of Celtic's last seven games see them in action on opposition grounds. With only four wins ln away

Venglos's side has yet to prove that it is capable of reeling off victories over the closing weeks. Celtic's delays in appointing a coach and in strengthening the squad are still likely to meet with the punishment they deserve.

isfactory outcome at the end. I

came off thinking something might happen later. What had

"I was pleased to be re-appointed for the second game. That's the way it should have been. At the time,

I never thought about the pos-

sibility of getting the final or

how the game might affect my

chances. I was really hon-

oured to get on the Fifa list in

1996 — representing your

country is something special

gone on wasn't normal.

Giggs has legendary status there for the taking by Stephen Wood

By STEPHEN WOOD

RYAN GIGGS was always the harbinger of the phenomenon of young, celebrity foot. ballers that has characterised the decade. His early achievements were outlined in the first paragraph of one of his early literary works, My

It was 1994 and Giggs had still not come of age as a man. The Manchester United player is now 25 and the intervening years have since added more winners' medals to his cabinet, more modelling poses to his photograph albums and more money to his bank ac-

The achievements that lie in store for Giggs this season, however, are unparalleled, not just in his career, but in the his-tory of football. As United plough relentlessly on, Giggs could become a member of the first English team to win the treble of league championship, FA Cup and European Cup in one season.

In 44 days, United would have to negotiate successfully their way through 11 matches. Nevertheless, it is not wise to question Giggs's powers of endurance. He was the teenager that used to rack up 85 matches a season; the young lad who would, every weekend, play two games of football for Dean's Boys Club, in Manchester, one for Salford schoolboys and throw in a rugby



Giggs: treble chance

league outing for Salford as a warm-down.

"People tell us how difficult our run-in is, but I think we still look fresh," Giggs said. This is when the manager's decision to strengthen the squad and to rest players for certain games is of great bene-

It is not just the quantity of fixtures that many observers BUTCITCE TO SEE the weight of importance that each one carries. Tonight, they face Arsenal in the FA Cun semi-final replay and, once the FA Carling Premiership match against Sheffield Wednesday has been dealt with on Saturday, United fly to Turin to meet Juventus, of Italy, in the second leg of the

European Cup semi-final. Yet Giggs insists that he and his colleagues will relish the tasks ahead. 'This is the sort of situation you want to be involved in," he said. "We have to enjoy it now it's here and ! honestly believe that we will look forward to each occasion. "Winning has become a hab-

it for us and, with a little bit of luck, we could win every match left this season. It would be great if we could do it." al collection with one from the

rant an autobiography.

■ STEVE HOWEY, the Newcastle United defender. who was carried off in the FA Cup semi-final against Tottenham Hotspur on Sunday, will miss the Cup Final at Wembley next month. It was revealed last night that Howey has damaged Achilles' tendons and is unlikely to play for eight months.

Howey, who has played only a few of games in the past three years because of injury, said: "The good news is it isn't connected to my old

Arsène Wenger, the asked to help Japan before and during the 2002 World Cup finals, which Japan is hosting with South Korea. ■ Wolverhampton

Wanderers are giving a trial to Steve Horvat, 24, an Australia central defender who plays for Hajduk Split, of Croatia.

Aston Villa have announced plans to expand the capacity of their Villa Park stadium to more than 50,000 from its present limit of 39,372. The proposals also include a new shopping complex, hotel and industrial development.

■ The Scottish Football Association confirmed yesterday that there will be a straight 50-50 split of tickets at the Scottish Cup final between Rangers and Celtic next month. The May 29 game will be the first at the reopened 52,000-capacity Hampden Park and the

for Riverside players

IT may be taking the narrow-ing divide with the world of showbusiness a mite too far, but if ever an award for Best Supporting Football Club was to be considered, Middlesbrough would undoubtedly be favourites to lift the gong. Spring would not be complete without its obligatory tales of drama and woe from the River-

Since a decaying Ayresome Park hosted its final, cramped match four years ago, a season has never been concluded without some form of head-spinning activity. Player rebellion. outrageous new signings, promotion, relegation, periodic if unsuccessful — trips to Wembley; the Teesside air seems to come alive with vibrant controversy. This year, it appears, will be no exception.

Although their own league position is unusually static the prospect of silverware having long been dispelled, their safety was confirmed eight days ago - Middlesbrough are to be paid a visit by Chelsea tonight, heralding a month-long flurry that sees each of the FA Carling Premiership's three remaining championship contenders tread warily up the Al9. Bryan Robson has suddenly become

a kingmaker. Leeds United, in fourth place, will also have a role to fill, given that they, too, face each of the teams immediately above them, although only Manchester United and BY GEORGE CAULKIN

Arsenal still face the daunting Journey to Elland Road. It is Middlesbrough, where just one away victory has been forthcoming in the past 18 months, that salvation or damaged with the salvation or damaged with the salvation or damaged with the salvation of the salvation will be salvation. nation will be garnered. In the short term, Chelsea

have the greatest incentive win tonight, while Arsenal and United are otherwise engaged replaying their FA Cup semi-final, and they return to the head of the pack; lose or draw and the impetus begins to seep away. It begets a prominence that Robson relishes. even though many will suspect that his long-time alle-giance to Old Trafford might influence his stance.

Although he denies it, the Middlesbrough manager was



Robson: kingmaker's role

sporting a coy grin while rebutting the charge yesterday. "If we beat Chelsea and Arsenal and then United beat us, then

Alex Ferguson [the Manchester United manager] will probably buy me a drink," Robson said. "I'm sure everybody at Arsenal and everybody at Manchester United will be delighted even if we manage only to take a draw from Chelsea because it would be another game out of the way."

If that response contained the merest hint of an anti-Chelsea tone, it was another suggestion that Robson laid to rest. Twice, over the past two seasons, the Londoners have emerged victorious from finals of both domestic cup competitions, while Middlesbrough's 2-0 defeat at Stamford Bridge last September is regarded by players and coaching staff as a particularly effete perform-

However, what all three title contenders will encounter is a vastly different challenge from the sweet-flowing, brittle team that last took its place in the highest division. Irregular cameos from Paul Gascoigne aside, Robson's is now a collecove unit, modelled on fitness and experience, marshalled by Andy Townsend and Robbie Mustoe in midfield and by Gary Pallister, the former United defender, in defence. They may not be leading players, but they are certainly familiar with the glare of the

Role of villainy is perfect | Jones finally exonerated over the goal that wasn't

wo months ago, Peter Jones found himself at the centre of worldwide attention. He refereed the FA Cup fifth-round tie between Arsenal and Sbeffield United at Highbury and allowed the infamous goal by Marc Overmars that redefined the boundaries of sportsmanship. He adhered to the rulebook, yet kept a low profile as the moral indignatioo swirled around him.

Two days ago, Jones was appointed to take charge of the Cun Final between Newcastle United and either Manchester United or Arsenal next month. He received a message from the Football Association, quickly returned the call and was asked if he would be available on May 22. He was. It completes his journey from the dozen park pitches of Loughboroogh Aerodrome in Leicestershire - on which, at 19, he started his career — to Wembley, the Venue of Legeods.

The chaotic scenes at High bury had not harmed his chances of refereeing the final - he took charge of the rematch, anyway - and he recalls the events with clarity and conviction. "I felt comfortable about my decision because I knew I had done the right thing." Jones, 45, said

The furore was sparked when, with the score at I-I, the ball was put out of play to allow treatment to an injured Russell Kempson talks to the referee

who has gone from FA Cup controversy

to Wembley

Sheffield United player, Instead of returning it to their opponents, Arsenal broke the unwritten code of sportsmanship by scoring through Overmars. Within an hour of the final whistle, the club's offer of a rematch had been approved by the FA.

"It was an unusual situation, a one-off, but you have to make some tough calls as a referee and I did what I had to," Jones said. "My mind was



- but I suppose this has to be the pinnacle." It will be the sixth visit to Wembley for Jones, a BT account manager from Loughborough. He has been fourth official on four occasions and took charge of the Coca-Cola Cup final between Chelsea and Middlesbrough last season. Since joining the Fifa list. he has had 30 appointments in 20 countries, including his

of Iceland — last July. Jones has oo game in the FA Carling Premiership this weekend, but will try to arrange a run-out at Loughborough Aerodrome, where it all began with his friend, Brien Smith, for £2 a match 26 years ago. "It's not so big now, there's been a fair bit of building on it," he said, "so hopefully I might get promoted to

first European Cup fixture —

FK Obilic, of Yugoslavia,

against IBV Vestmannaeyja,

1.7

 $(\tau,\tau)\in C(X)$

If Giggs completes his med-European Cup final in Barcelona, on May 26, it would be legendary. That really would war-

FOR THE RECORD

TODAY'S FIXTURES

BASEBALL NATIONAL LEAGUE: NY Mets 8 Florida t Cheago Cubs 2 Circinnati 7, Cobrado : San Diego 8 (11 innings), Philadelphia Atlanta 8, Artzona 12 Los Angeles 6 750 625 500 429 286 Chopong Norton of Avon Vasey Starley or Bridgwaler BCL 18-14. NEW LOUNT, Leicesterabire: England International frial (May 30): Red Inem: Rink 1: R Britan, G Ashby (Warwidss.) J Bowman (Leics), K Smith (Bucks) Rlink 2: R Sarropson (Dorot), A Badder (Cumbs), R Mosess (Berts), Jenidris (Micke), R Moses (Sussen), A Hollis (Leics) Rlink 4: A Prew (Ocon), M Bernett (Northumo), S Thomas (Warwides), S Fareh (Cumbs), Rink 5: A Mortey (Notis), S Sketton (Lincs), N Jones (Warwides), S Fareh (Cumbs), Rink 8: J Ottawey, M King (Nortok), S Tuchy (Micke), D J Cutter (Devon), Writte team: Rhale 1: A Wille (Glos), S Arey (Cumbs), B Bond (Devon), A Allocok (Glos), Rink 2: O Morgan (Harts), M Read (Com), L Miler (Cambs), S Warren (Witts), Rlink 3: Grog Moon (Oxon), R Stanley, G Burgess (Words), D Demson (Devon) Plink 4: J Rechall (Suffolle), L Gallett (Duon), C Palmey, J Leeman (Durham) Rink 5: N Charder (Glos), S Kirikand (Durham), R Bonghall (Porfols), J Strading (Berks) Rlink 8: P Barlow (Cumbria), W Jockson (Lucs), H Mayne (Lancs), D Brown (Lincs), Reserves: P Barr (Nortok), M Harregon (Yorks). Pittsburgh ST Louis Houston Cincinnati Milwaukes 500 AMERICAN LEAGUE: Cleveland 5 Kansas City 2 (10 Innings), Detroi 0 Minnesota 1 (12 Inmings) Texas 5 Anghem 13, Toronto 7 Tornpa Bay 1, Seattle 5 Caldand 3 **ETON FIVES**

BASKETBALL NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Bos-ton 103 Cleveland 89. Toronto 99 Indiana 109. Detroil 86 Charlotte 92, Minnesota 90 Houston 96, Sen Antonio 94 Proeno 77. Utah 98 Vancouver 80. Denver 96 Golden Clerk 109.

MELTON MOWBRAY: English Indoor re-tional championships: Triples: Quarter-finals: Blackpool Borough bi Worthing Pavi-ion 22-15, Grantham bit East Dorset 18-15. Chipping Norion bt Avon Valley Stanley bt Bridgwaler BCL 18-14.

KINNAIRO CUP NATIONAL CHAMPION KINNAIRD CUP NATIONAL CHAMPION-SHIPS: Third round: R Mason and J Mole bt \$ Plummer and P Bowden 12-1, 12-1, 12-1; \$ Cooley and A Varma bt J Fleming and I' Rudman 6-12, 12-6, 8-12, 12-8, 13-11, M Hughes and M Lasceles bt R Home and R Beenstock 12-5, 12-1, 12-7, E Wass and J Halstead bt C Cooley and O Hawking 12-9, 12-6, 12-1; H Wissensa prict P Markidanen bye M Williams and J Panner bi. J Rose and J Luddy 12-3, 12-1, 12-3; J Toop and M Wiserman br. P Sarmah and P Cohen 12-0, 12-1, 12-3; E Taylor and J Reynolds byo Guartier-finalis: Mason and Mole bi Cooley and Varma 12-3, 12-7, 12-3. Wass and Hatslead by M Hughes and Lascelles 12-5, 12-1, 12-7; H Wiserman and Markhanen bi Williams and Pinner 15-11, 12-8, 12-10; Toop and M Wiserran bit Taylor and Reynolds 7-12, 12-7, 7-12, 12-2, 12-1, Papperpot Trophy: Semi-finalis: D Mew and S Fautily bit N Con and P Stack, 12-3

FOOTBALL

Arsenal v Mari Utd (all Villa Park, 7 45)

Kick-off 7 30 unless stated

FA Carling Premierable

Scarborough v Darlington Nationwide Conference

Nationwide League

Second division

Third division

Bank of Scotland

Scottish League

Clydebanir v Ayr

Hearts v Celtic (7 45)....

Rangers v Dunfermine (7.45)

DR MARTENS LEAGUE: Premier divi-sion: Boston v Tamworth. Southern divi-sion: St Leenards v Fisher London Mid-land division: RC Warwsk v Moor Green. Wisbech Town v Statlong.

UNIBOND LEAGUE: First division: Brad-lord Pl. Ave v Ashton United

Middlesbrough v Chelsea (7 45)

Manchester City v Luton (7.45) Milwall v Colchester (7.45)

FA Cup Semi-final replay

Chamberlain and P Lyndon 12-10, 12-7, 12-3 Final: Mew and Faulty bt Woolines and Pulsiond 15-14, 12-10, 12-5

FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP: Leads Under 0 Diverpool 0
NATIONWIDE CONFERENCE: Kiddemin-

don v Orford City. Wealdstone v Wembley Third division: Tring v Aveley.

Third divisions Img v everey.

AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION:
Pirst division: Brighton v Barnet (7 0);
Cambridge v Brentford (2 0) Gringham v
Chelcea, Ipsarch v Tottenham (7 0), Odord
v Warford, Svendon v Southampton (7 15),
Pendong v Bournemouth (at Thaticham
Towen

Town)

PONTIN'S LEAGUE: Premier division:
Everton v Blackburn (7 0), Notingham Forest v Sunderland (7 0), Preston v Derby (at
Barribor Bridge FC, 7 15). First division:
Barribor v Oldham (7 15). First division:
Barribor v Oldham (7 15). First division:
Bradford v Strevsbury (2 0), Newcastio v Lincoln (7 0), Stockport v Huddersfield
(7 0), Workam v Backpool (7 0), York v
Notis County (7 0), Third division: Chestorield v Huita (2 0), Hartlepool v Caristia
(2 0): Huit v Sounthorper (2 0), Rochdale v
Chesier (2 0), Walsall v Bury (2 0)

LEAGUE OF WALFRE Abonestwith v

LEAGUE OF WALES: Aberysiwyth

GILBERT LEAGUE CUP: DESCRIPTION COMMENT OF THE PROPERTY BENGOT CAY (7.45)
FA PREMER ACADEMY LEAGUE: Play offs, first round: Under-19: Crewe v Peter-borough (1.30). Eventon v Leicester (2.0)
Under-17: Briskol City v Barnsley (3.30) GOLBERT LEAGUE CUP: Semi-final

SCHWEPPES ESSEX SENGR LEAGUE: Premier division; Eton Manor v Basidon U. COMPLETE MUSIC MELLENIC LEAGUE: Premier division; Almoristury 8 Burnham Farlord v Banbuy; Highworth

sier 4 Northwich (), Stevenage 5 Woking () UNIBOND LEAGUE: Premier division: Emiley 1 Hyde 1 RYMAN LEAGUE: Premier division: Postponed: Dag and Red v Chesham POOTBALL LEAGUE YOUTH ALLI-ANCE: Premier division: Websil 0

BANKS'S BREWERY LEAGUE Promis division: Wohorhampton 1 Cradley 4
AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION:
Florid division: Fulture 5 Milwalf 2 Norwich
0 West Ham 3, Wimbledon 3 Wattord 2

ARNOTT INSURANCE NORTHERN LEAGUE; League Cup: Semi-finat: Ja-row Rooting v South Shields WINSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE: Pro-

mier division: Canterbury v Heme Bay Cray v Erith.

division: Chippenham v Odd Down BANKS'S BREWERY LAGUE: Pramier division: Smglinvick Ranges v Star: Stat-ford Town v Tjoton Town, Wolverhampton v Briefly Hill Town JEWSON SCREWRX DIRECT LEAGUE: Pro division: Chicoentam v Odd Down

JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE: First divi-sion: Downton v Portsmouth, Hamble ASSC v Christchurch, Money Fields v

UNIJET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE: First division: Eastbourns Town v

NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE: Premier division: Hallern v Thorists NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE: Prunier division: Hallem v Tracker, NORTH WESTERN TRAINS LEAGUE: First division: Leek CSOB v Kidsgrove Ramsbollom v Vaushall GM, St Helens

Town v Atherton LR.

11.0, first day of four 104 overs minimum EDGBASTON: Warwickshire v

11 0, second day of four

CHESTER-LE-STREET: Durham

NORTH WESTERN TRAINS LEAGUE: First division: Citheroe () Workington 1 ARNOTT INSURANCE NORTH LEAGUE:

O'LD TRAFFORD: Lancashire v Sussex LORD'S: Middlesex v Kent THE OVAL: Surrey v Gloucestershire

University matches THE PARKS: Oxford University v 11.30, final day of three TRENT BRIDGE: Nottinghamshire

RIVGBY LEAGUE Pre-miler division: Howorth v West Hull (7 30). Whosiston v Saddleworth (7 30). First divisions: Set Leads v Featherstonp Lions (7 0); Leigh East v Wigan St Judo's (7 0). Modigreen v Dudley Hill (7 0). Rochdale Mayfield v Sadas (7 0). Second division: Blackbrook v Kegniey Albon (8 0). Crosleddo v Eccles (7 0). Normarion v Dodworth (7 0).

RUGBY LEAGUE

REPRESENTATIVE MATCH: RAF v Royal Navy (al Gloucesier, 7 0). ARS LEAGUE: Second division: Portad-own v UCC (7 0) OTHER SPORT

RUGBY UNION

BASKETBALL: Budwelear play-off championship: Quarter-Brais, second leg: Steffield Sharks v Greater London Leopards (at Ponds Forge ISC, 7.45); Themes Valley Tigers (91) v Dorby Storm (87) (8 0)

Objet Specing 4
ARGENTINE LEAGUE: River Plate 2 Inde-pendiente 1, Valez Samfreid 3 Lanue 2; San Lorenzo 1 Tatleres 0; Estudiantes de La Pla-ta 1 Rosario Central 1, Begirano 3 Grimpasia Eegima de La Plata 1, Argentinos Juniors 1 Huracan 2, Colon 0 Umon 0; Newell's Old Boys 0 Boca Juniors 1, Racing Club 2 Girmasia de Jujuy 0 Girmasia de Jujuy u
BRAZILIAN LEAGUES: São Paulo: Second starge: Mogi Mirim 2 Guarani 1, Comthans 1 Barbarense 3, Maionense 0 São
Paulo 4, Portuguesa Santista 1 Santos 5,
Palmeras 2 Rio Branco 1, Portuguesa 1 In-

WORLD RANKINGS: Leading positions (United States unless stated): 1, 0 Duval 13 35pts, 2. T Woods 11.57; 3, 0 Love III 11.40, 4, E Els (SA) 9.07, 5, M O'Meara 900, 8, V Steph Els 9.07

900, 8, V Singh (Fij) 8.99; 7, L Weshwood (Engl 8 72, 6. N Pros (Zm) 6 59, 9, C Mont-gomeri-Scot) 6 13, 10, J-Linyk 7-20, 11, P Michelson 7 08, 12, J Leonard 6 97, 13, F Couples 6 72; 14, M Ozald (Japan) 6 56; 15, J Magger 6 02, 16, P Stewart 5 65, 17, S Sh-ington (Aus) 5 47; 18, O Clarke (Ire) 5 42, 19, J M Otzablel, Spain, 5 35; 20, J Pamey-k (Swe) 5 31.

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): Washington 2 Chicago 4: New Jersey 2 NY Islanders 4 Otunwa 0 Flonda 2; NY Rangers 2 Tampe Bey 1. Nashviffe 3 Los Angeles 4. Calgary 0 Vancouwer 2: Son Jose 4 Edmonton 5 (01) COPENHAGEN: World champlor Pool B: Estona 2 Great Britan 6

SPEEDWAY CRAVEN SHIELD: Wolverhampton 48 King's Lynn 42

mal: O Elborolossy (Egypl) bt (Aus) 12-15, 15-11, 15-11, 15-7

TENNIS

TOKYO: Japan Open: Men: First round: HKaneko (Japan) bt M Knowles (Bahamas) 6-3, 6-4; M Chang (US) bt M HB (Aus) 7-6, 6-7, 7-6. J van Loftum (Neth) bt N Escude (Fr) 8-2, 6-4, P Gordssein (US) bt H Dreakmann (Ger) 7-5, 6-4, B Kartbacher (Ger) tat 5 Campbell (US) 8-2, 7-6, 0 Nestor (Carl bt C Vinck (Ger) 4-6, 6-3, 6-3, 1, Burgsmüller (Ger) bt P Wessels; Nieth) 6-3, 3-6, 2-8 Stepanek (Car) bt J Tarango (US) 7-5, 6-4 M Seif (US) bt M Woodfords (Aus) 7-6. 2-6
3-3, G Pouz fith bt R Wassen (Neth) 6-2, 6-2 C Mamm (US) bt 8 MacPhie (US) 7-6, 6-2 S Schallean (Neth) bt W Black (Zim) 6-4, 6-1 miss, P Sinchaphan (Thai) bt V Santopadre (It 6-3, 7-6, K Cartsen (Den) bt R Schuller (Ger) 6-6, 4-M Tillistrom (Swe) bt J Kroslak (Slovalog) 7-6, 6-4; J Kripspaschild (Ger) bt B (Seri 6-2, 6-4, M Triistrom (Swe) bt J Kroski (Slovaker 7-6, 6-4; J Krinposchid (Ger) bt B Steven (NZ) 6-2, 7-5; W Arthurs (Aus) bt M Rodriguez (Arg) 6-4, 6-3 Wennerz First 1 round: K-A Guse (Aus) bt L Andreso (F) 6-4, 6-3; M Tu (US) bt M Shaughnessy (US) 6-3, 7-5

6-3, 7-5

BARCELONA: Men's tournsment: First round: M Zebalete (Arg) bt S Grogen (Fr) 7-6, 6-7, 6-1; F Mantilla (Sp) bt G Barco (Sp) 6-2, 6-1; A Portes (Sp) bt A Medwede (Ura) 6-4, 6-1; S Usmach (Cd) bt F Roig (Sp) 7-6, 6-1; M Puerta (Arg) bt A Vonces (Rom) 6-3, 7-6; T Carbonell (Sp) bt J C Ferrero (Sp) 6-3, 4-6, 6-4, A Manni (Sp) bt J Novasi (Ca) 6-0, 6-1, J A Manni (Sp) bt J Novasi (Ca) 6-0, 6-1, J A Manni (Sp) bt J Novasi (Ca) 6-0, 6-1, J A Manni (Sp) bt J Novasi (Ca) 6-0, 6-1, J A Manni (Sp) bt J Novasi (Ca) 6-0, 6-2, Sectoral (US) bt M Norman (Swei) 6-3, 7-6; V Sodde (US) bt M Norman (Swei) 6-3, Ge Sectoral round: Y El Aymacui (Mor) bt A Correix (Sp) 7-6, 6-3

(Sp) 7-5, 6-3
WORLD RANKINGS: Leading gostions: Men: 1, P Sampres (US) 3.55-pts
2. C. Moyd. (Sp) 3.483; 3, Y Kalainiov.
(Russ) 3.382; 4, R Kraticek (Neth) 3.119, 5
A Conetta (Sp) 3.101, 6, P Patter (Aus)
2.978, 7, T Herman (GB) 2.633; 8, T Martin
(US) 2.439; 9, M Philippouses (Aus) 2.284
10, K Kucera (Stovako) 2.283; 11, A Ages
US) 2.219; 12, G Puscakola (GB) 2.128; 13
M Rios (Chile) 2.123; 14, A Costa (Sp)
US) 2.219; 12, G Puscakola (GB) 2.128; 13
M Rios (Chile) 2.123; 14, A Costa (Sp)
1.531; 16, T Hass (Ge) 1.500; 19, F Martin
1.531; 18, T Hass (Ge) 1.500; 19, F Martin
1.535;

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England need to rethink batting tactics

From Richard Hobson in Shariah

PRACTICE matches ahead of an important tournament must always be approached with a degree of trepidation. Fresh difficulties can arise as easily as existing problems are solved. England arrived here less than a fortnight ago with a batting strategy for the World Cup firmly in mind, but they return home today with the form of the top order a matter for serious concern. Even though earlier failures ensured

that it would carry no bearing on the Coca-Cola Cup. the victory against Pakistan at the CBFS Stadium on Monday night provided considerable relief after seven successive one-day defeats stretching back to the Carlton and United series in Australia. Yet the 62-run win, however emphatic in the end, was gained despite another indif-

In each of the four games against In-dia and Pakistan, the finalists here on Friday, England lost their fourth wick-

Vinod Kambli hit the winning boundary that gave India a sixwicket victory over Pakistan in the Coca-Cola Cup in Sharjah yesterday. Salim Malik and Moin Khan made battling halfcenturies for Pakistan, enabling them to reach a total of 205 from the allotted 50 overs. Both teams have already secured a place in the final on Friday, but were taking the dress rehearsal seriously.

et with the score below 100. Stewart, in particular, endured a lean tournament, scoring 42 runs from four innings. It is imperative that he spends time at the crease for Surrey before England gather at Canterbury on May 2 to begin training ahead of practice matches against Kent, Essex and Hampshire that precede the main event. He intends to play in at least one National League and one PPP Healthcare county championship fixture.

Our batting has not functioned as a unit and some people need runs under their belts," David Graveney, the chairman of selectors and tour manager. said. "Sometimes when we chase runs, the fragility of our batting becomes very evident, particularly when the opposition have top-class spin bowlers. We are not alone in finding it far more difficult to chase than 10 defend a total

England must decide how far to shape the batting order towards aggression in the first 15 overs, when only two fielders are allowed outside the 30-metre ring. Conditions helping seam and swing will militate against batsmen altempting to hit through the line and the selectors may revert to an orthodox batting order of Stewart, Knight, Hick, Thorpe and Fairbrother, rather than promote Flintoff or Ealham, when the World Cup begins against Sri Lanka on May 14.

Poor results in Sharjah reflected unease with the conditions and the handicap of batting second in the first three games. Some of the strategy, too, was questionable. To hold back Fairbrother to No 8 in the second game against India was a waste of the best one-day batsman in the side. The Indians assumed that he must have been injured.

Hoping to compete successfully against players at ease in extreme heat and experienced on low, slow pitches in the hope of stringing together a sequence of victories to raise confidence ahead of the World Cup always seemed to be over-optimistic. A second defeat by Pakistan might have removed all self-belief from a squad unhappy at the way the issue of contracts for the World Cup has been allowed to drift.

The assurance of Flintoff and return to fitness of Thorpe, who scored 79 and 62 in the last two matches, represent the most obvious benefits of the trip. Ealham recovered form to take four wickets on Monday, when he also scored an important 36, while Fraser returned to the side to restrict batsmen to three runs an over in the first half of the innings. Early fears that Mullally might have to miss the World Cup because of a side strain have proved to be unfounded.

"To have stayed in England at the mercy of the weather would have been counter-productive," Graveney said. "It has been a chance to get together and build team spirit. Regrettably, as far as that was concerned, the on-going spat about contracts has not helped at

The discontent that simmered throughout the trip was unleashed on Tim Lamb when the chief executive of the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) saw the players at the team hotel after the victory over Pakistan. The meeting lasted around two hours.

Although they seem certain to agree to the terms before the ECB deadline of April 26, it will be unnatural if resentment towards the board does not linger. As Graveney said, it has not been a happy squad going about its work.



Maiden voyage: Jane Saxton, left, and Evelyn Pond make history as they clap Justin Langer, the Kent opener, on to the pitch at Lord's

Lord's, ladies and gentlemen

THERE was no need to panic after all. There was drama, but it came a couple of hours later than some of the crustier members might have imagined, when two claps of thunder chased off a snowstorm, Two hours earlier, with no more than a polite murmur of excitement, the 211-year male-only reign of the Long Room at Lord's came to an end.

Twenty-one women worship-pers claimed their pews among the throng of a hundred or so in cricket's most famous cathedral. Little matter that the sky was slate grey and the game doomed to a soggy end. Most of those who came did so to soak up the atmosphere inside the pavilion, not the action out in the middle, They started early, determined

to enjoy the day. A group of four women, all holding blue Middlesex membership cards, flashed cameras and wide smiles as they stepped over the threshold. "I've been in the pavilion before to watch a University match," Hilary Bruce said. "My husband is a member, so I came as his guest. But the doormen are much less begrudging this time. I think they must have been sent to charm school.'

Sarah Potter on the day hairspray and pink tissues made it into the Long Room

Julia Northover, a pensioner from North London, was inside early enough to claim the autographs of some of her heroes as they skipped up the steps after practice. "I did the tour of Lord's once," she said. "but this is the first time I've been in to watch the cricket. I'm a Middlesex member and

surroundings It was too cold for even the most Even the umpires were touched

Winter's tale a familiar one

LORD'S (first day of four: Kent won toss): Middlesex have scored 16 for one wicket against Kent

SNOW, rain, bad light, lightning, thunder, a brief glimpse of sunshine - and hardly any cricket. For the opening day of the new seasoo at Lord's, it would have been unwise to expect a great deal more (Ivo Tennant writes). In the ten overs that were possible, Middlesex, who were put in to bat by Matthew Fleming, lost one of their openers.

Michael Roseberry, now back with Middlesex after four rather unproductive years with Durham, was bowled by a trimmer from Headley when a restart was made in late afternoon. There was some watchful defence from Langer, but

by some of the goodwill. John Harris and Tony Clarkson had to pose

for photographs en route to the

square as a tall woman laughed

guiltily between them. If the no

photography rule was being

shamelessly broken, all other

behaviour was strictly in keeping

with the Victorian splendour of the

that was about all. Kent have come up with a nickname for themselves in the forthcoming National League. The last side to do so, they are to be "Kent Spitfires" on account of the county's links with the Battle of hot-blooded female to disregard the dress code. There were no skintight leggings and not a bare shoulder in sight. Most women donned dark-coloured, conservative suits, though one bright red overcoat sent a zing of warm colour through the oil-painted reserve of the

Every layer was welcome for outside, a face-slapping north wind soon brought heavy rain. Even Father Time had to swivel away from the white-clad figures below. "The folly of man," he seemed to be whispering behind his stooped back, "trying to play cricket in April."

Sure enough, the covers were soon on. Members and their guests shuffled out of the Long Room. A few sought the haven of the "gentlemen only" Bowlers' Bar, others were happy to share beef baps and chitchat in the Long Spending a penny did not, how-

ever, come as easily as it should. There was not a sign in sight, but three new toilets were located eventually near the dressing-rooms. The pine seats, hairspray and pink tissues were damning evidence. Lord's has opened its doors to welcome the ladies — and survived.

RUGBY LEAGUE

Broncos show way forward

By Christopher Irvine

THE game's tentacles will reach six additional towns and cities in the second summer season of the highly successful Rugby League Conference (RLC), which should be receive a fillip from the appearance of London Broncos in the Silk Cut Challenge Cup final at Wembley before it starts on May 8.

At the launch of the 1999 season in London yesterday, Lionel Hurst, the RLC chairman, said that the appearance in the final at Wembley of Do-minic Peters, who played for West London in the Conference last year, and the addition by the Broncos of Darrell Griffen, the Conference young player of the year with Oxford, to its trainee programme, were "proof positive" of the game's growing national pro-

æ

Rugby league's switch to summer has assisted the cause of expansion, with many rugby union players trying their hand at the game, Crewe, Derby, Nottingham, Wolverhampton, Hemel Hempstead and Manchester (formerly Tameside) have joined the list of places where rugby league has a foothold, which is consistent with Hurst's ambition of a club in every sizeable place in England within five years.

Twelve of the 20 clubs are setting up junior sections. which Hurst said was pivotal to growth, along with the Broncos "spreading the word" in the South. Coventry and Newmarket had applications deferred and five more have been received for next year. DCEN PECEIVED for NEXT year.
RUGBY LEAGUE CONFERENCE: West
division: Chetenham, Worresler, Brming-ham, Wolverhampton, Lelessler North divi-sion: Chester, Crewe, Derby, Northopham,
Manchester, East division: SI Alberts,
West London, Crawley, North London, Ox-lord South division: Ipswich, Cambridge, South Nortok, Bartlord, Hemel Hempstead, Regional finale; August 7: South winners v East winners (Sloop Memorial Grand, Twickenham), August 15: North winners v West winners (Warrington) Grand finals Au-gust 21 (New River Stadium, London)

Henry and Robbie Paul, of Bradford Bulls, were named yesterday in the New Zealand team for the Anzac Day international against Australia in Sydney on Friday, April 23. The brothers were automatic selections after helping New Zealand to an historic series triumph on British soil last year. Robbie Paul will play at stand-off half while Henry Paul has been drafted in as at

Butcher passes endurance test

By GEOFFREY DEAN

THE OVAL (Gloucestershire won toss): Surrey have scored 124 for no wicket against

ANY reservations that Surrey's players held about a frosty week's physical train-ing with the Royal Marines in March ought to have been dispelled at a raw, gale-swept and virtually deserted Oval yesterday.

The hardship and foul conditions" of Lympstone - in the the words of the county's quarterly magazine - were ideal preparation for the 47-over endurance test that Mark Butcher and lan Ward survived vesterday.

In beastly weather, where hail coated the outfield at lunch and fielders' whites flapped like sails in a force ten, the Gloucestershire players must have cursed the illfortune of Mark Alleyne, their captain, in winning the toss. The prospect of a stop-start day, with rain around. demanded an insertion, but so little did the ball seam on the flat, true pitch, and so ably did Butcher and Ward play that a wicket never looked like falling. Not until the twentieth over was the bat beaten.

In short, it was far too cold for the ball to swing. Smith tried in vain to reproduce the lavish movement in the air of his last visit here two years ago, when Gloucestershire won comfortably. Lately, they have been Surrey's bogey team, with a thrilling victory against the odds at Chelten-

ham last year. Butcher looked a class act in the earliest first-class century opening stand in the Oval's history. Only when he had reached 48 did he play and miss. He signalled his fifty. with a tenth four.

Ward, his fellow left-hander, also hit some fine sbots, driving solidly and pulling gamely. Fortunate to edge Ball just wide of slip when on 46, he reached a worthy halfcentury from 131 balls.

Harvey, the visitors overseas signing, varies his pace cleverly and it was with a slower ball that he nearly bowled Butcher in the gloom.

R A Kertleborough, O A Shah, P N Weekas, D C Nach, J P Hewert, S J Cook, R L John-son and P C R Tutnell to bal.

BOWLING: Headley 5 1-1-13-1, Thompson 5-2-3-0.

FALL OF WICKET 1-8.

Champions get chilly reception

CHELMSFORD (first day of four: Essex won toss): Essex have scored 91 for two wickets against Leicestershire

START the championship on April 13 and you get what you ask for. It was a three-sweater, three slips and a gully sort of day, limited to little more than 30 overs by bursts of rain and hail. It was also a good toss to win. At least it meant that most of the Essex team could remain buddled in the pavilioo at any one time.

While Essex did not exactly

make the most of the occasion. Paul Prichard enabled the wooden spoonists of last year to make a creditable till at the Furthermore. champions. Prichard sailed comfortably past his highest championship score of last season — an almost unbelievable 24 moving to his undefeated 43 with six fours, including some rasping square cuts and a

short-arm pull off Chris Lewis to warm the blood.

By JACK BAILEY

playing and missing against Michael Kasprowicz, his team-mate in 1994, as well as

combating the movement off the seam gained by Lewis. For a long time, both he and Darren Robinson survived only precariously. James Whitaker, back from the knee injury that saw him miss every championship game last season, kept the Leicestershire warriors buzzing with determination during the four sessions of play.

Leicestershire their first breakthrough in the eighteenth over. Lewis moved one away to Robinson and Paul Nixon did the rest behind the stumps. The next over saw Kasprowicz rewarded for some good outswing bowling. undeterred by the fact that he was no-balling far too often.

The burly Australian had lan Flanagan leg-before, half-forward and tentative. This saw the arrival of Stuart Law. the Essex Australian, who settled in with Prichard before all sorts of foul weather and bad light kept everyone in the pavil-

ion for the rest of the day.

ft was a commendable effort, for he had to battle his way past an early period of

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

BY ROBERT-SHEEHAN, BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT

Maud Khouri and Lily Khalil are the anchor pair in the Egyptian Women's Team. They are a very aggressive pair who bid boldly and play well. Maud brought in the small slam shown below at a recently played teams match and earned her team 12 IMPs.

N-S game	
♥ 104 ♦ 5 ♣ A 102742 ♦ - N	1
♥ KQJ1083 W E ♦ 52 ♦ Q1087	

Contract: Six Spades by South. Lead: king of hearts

South opened One Spade and West overcalled Two Hearts. North started with a cue-bid of Three Hearts showing a good spade raise but necessarily a heart control. Thereafter an aggressive auction led to the precarious slam.

Even if trumps divide evenly, there are only eleven top tricks: four outside the trumps, five trumps in the South hand and two ruffs in the North hand. One of the minor suits must be established. If the trumps are not so friendly something more will be required.

Recognising the need to start on establishing the clubs, Maud won the lead with the ace of hearts and played ace and another club. ruffing. A spade to the ace revealed the unfriendly break. Another club was ruffed, revealing that they were divided evenly. Now she played the ace and king of diamonds, discarding a

heart from dummy, and ruffed a diamond. This was the position:

\$1087 ♣ J94 ♥ QJ106 795 ♦ Q **♣ Q 8** C 7 ♦ 94 Now, with the lead in

dummy, she played a club. East ruffed with the nine of spades, declarer overruffed with the queen, ruffed a heart with the ten of spades and played another good club. She has not yet lost a trick. If East ruffs low, she will overruff, and dummy's king of spades is her twelfth trick. On the other hand, if East ruffs with the jack, declarer will make the last two tricks whatever East returns.

KEENE on CHESS

BY RAYMOND KEENE CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Spanish leaders

As the elite tournament in Dos Hermanas, Spain passes its half-way stage, Michael Ad-ams, the Briosh grandmaster, and Vladimir Kramnik, the powerful Russian, share the lead on 314/5. After her win against Anand in the first round, Judii Polgar has plummeted with three losses. while Viswanathan Anand, widely tipped as a likely challenger to Garry Kasparov's world otle, is utter-Garry ly languishing with two losses and no wins. Today's game is Adams win against the veter-

an Korchnoi. White: Michael Adams Btack: Viktor Korchnoi Dos Hermanas 1999 Ruy Lopez

_	1410	1400
3	Bb5	Nf6
4	0-0	Nxe4
5	d4	Nd6
а	Bxc6	dxc6
7	dxe5	N/5
В	Qxd8+	Kxd8
9	Nc3	h6
10	Rd1+	Ke8
11	h3	Bb4
12	Ne2	Be7
13	b3	h5
14	Bg5	. f6
15	ext6	gd6
16	Bf4	No6
17	c4	KI7
18	Rac1	Bf5
		Bh7
19	Ng3	
20	Re1	Ne8
21	Red1	Bd6
22	Bxd6	cxd6
23	Rd2	Ng7
24	Rxd6	Rhd8
25	Red1	Poot6
26	Rod6	Ke7
27	Rd2	a5
28	а3	a4
29	b 4	b6
30	Nd4	c5

Bg8 Bxc4 Be6 Rb8 Kxe6

Ke5 Ra8 Nf5 Ne4 Nc5 Rd7 Nd6 Kd5 Kc6 Nb7 Kc6 h4 Rb8 Rd4 Kc5 Rb3+ Ke3 Roa4 Rxh3 Rg3 h3 Ke4 Ra6 Kf5 Rxa3 Kd4 Rg3 Rh6

g5 g6 Ke5 Diagram of final position 京 東 東 東 東 東 東 東

Keene online

You can send me your queries, puzzles, problems and games direct by e-mail. The address is keenechess@aol.com. The best contributions from Times readers will be published either here or in the Saturday Times Weekend column.

Correction

The diagram which appeared yesterday was a repeat of Monday's and did not show the final position of the game King y Pein.

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

FAINHEAD a. A mizzen-mast sail c. An equestrian manoeuvre

c. An idiot **GODDARD**

FLAPDOODLE

Answers on page 42

WINNING MOVE

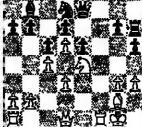
By Raymond Keene

31 bxc5

White to play. This position is from the game Williams Chernaiev, Hastings 1999. This appears to be a quiet middlegame position but in

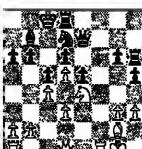
which wins immediately. Can vou see it? Solution on page 42

fact White has a clever tactic



a. A pancake b. Food for fools

> GLYCONIC a. A lyric metre



FALL OF WICKETS 1-40, 2-45 BOWLING, Lasprowicz 14-4-39-1, Lewis 13-2-3-36-1 Ormond 2-0-8-0, Dakin 1-0-4-0 LEICESTERSHIRE: D. L. Maddy, T. J. Suf-cirle, A. Habib, & F. Smith, "J. J. Whitaker. 1P A. Noon, C.C. Lews, J. M. Dakn, J. Ormond, M. S. Kasprowicz, M.T. Brimson

PPP Healthcare

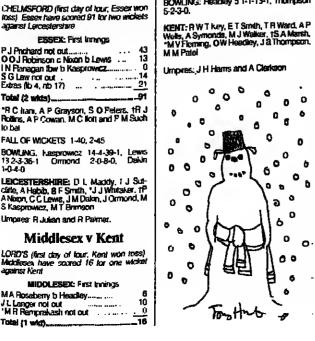
county championship

Essex v Leicestershire

ESSEX: First Innings

Umpres: R Julian and R Pairrer. Middlesex v Kent LORD'S (first day of laur, Kent won toss) Middlesex have soored 16 for one wicket

MIDDLESEX: First Innings M A Roseberry to Headley........ /L Langer not out
'M R Remprekash not out



YESTERDAY'S SCOREBOARDS Surrey v Gloucestershire THE OVAL (lust day of four; Gloucestershire won toes): Surrey have scored 124 for red wocket against Gloucestershire SURREY: First Innings

*M A Bulcher not out. -Total (no wid)_ J O Rarchife, N Shanid, A O Brown, 8 C Hol-lioeke, 1J N Barty, G P Butcher, A J Tudor, 1 O K Salisbury and M P Bicknell to bar.

BOWLING: Smith 13-3-36-0; Lewis 14-6-37-0; Harvey 8-4-21-0, Alleyne 7-3-16-0; Ball 5-1-14-0 GLOUCESTERSHIRE: K J Barnell, T H C Hancock, O R Hewson, "M W Aleyne, M G N Windows, I J Harvey, J N Snape, †R C Russell, M C J Ball, J Lewis, A M Smith Umpres: 8 Dudiesion and J F Steete.

NO PLAY YESTERDAY: Chester-le-Street: Durham v Worcestershire Old Traf-ford: Lancashire v Sussex. UNIVERSITY MATCH: Trent Bridge; Cam-bridge University 209 for 5 (G R Lovendge 64 not out, R G Halsall 55) v Notlingham-shre.

One-day international Coca-Cola Cup India v Pakistan SHARJAH (Pakistan won toss), India best . PAKISTAN

Shoalb Althlar not out ... Extras (16 7, nb 5)...

R Oravid run out

Total (9 wids, 50 overs). FALL OF WICKETS, 1-16, 2-34, 3-45, 4-50, 5-110, 6-183, 7-184, 8-200, 9-202 BOWLING: Prasad 10-0-45-1, Agarker 10-1-41-2, Kumble 10-3-27-1, Singh 10-1-25-0, Joshi 7-0-40-0; Jadeja 3-0-19-2 A R Khurasiya b Shoafo .

A Jaceja c ljaz b Shoaib R R Singh not out V G Kembli not out...... Extras (to 6, w 12, nb 1)....... Total (4 wkts, 48 overs). th R Mongue, A 2 Aganker, 8 8 Joshi, A Kumble and 2 K V Prasaci dict not bat FALL OF WICKETS 1-17, 2-184, 3-187, 4-190.

BOWLING Wesm Alvam 10-1-39-0. Shoelb Akhtar 10-0-43-1, Saqlam Mushtaq 10-0-47-0 Acher Mehmood 10-1-35-0. She-hirid Artid. 8-0-32-0. Wajenelutten Wasti 0.1-0-4-0. Umpres: 0 & Harr (Australie) and I T Robinson (Zimbabwe)

a. A goblet b. A goblin

b. Gladness

c. A hanging judge

b. A philosopher's disciple c. Bitter-sweet

Painful legacy of sporting life

MIDWEEK VIEW



Simon Barnes Sports Feature Writer of the Year

have decided on reflecdon not to run the London Marathon on Sunday. Life is too short. certainly too short to risk shortening it still further with the damaging effects of sport. The London Marathon has become an annual celebration of a deeply old-fashioned view of sport the idea that sport is somehow good for you.

On the contrary, sport is extremely bad for you and those who most stridently push the claims of sport as something essentially good are those that seem most obviously to be suffering from the manifold and various curses that the sporting life makes inevitable.

I think, on this occasion, we will let Jim Fixx - the father of the modern running boom. who dropped dead on a run in his mid-50s - rest in peace this once. There is plenty of compelling evidence without revisiting the end of poor old

Just about every half-decent story we get on the sports pag-es is a celebradon of the utter badness of sport. This week has belonged, in the face of hot competition, to the medical problems of Jose Maria Olazabal and his courage in overcoming them. The man was reduced to a shambling and, when no one was looking, crawling wreck. The problem was traced to his lower back, which is where golfers get damaged so often. Ask Seve, if you don't believe me, or my brother-in-law, who was reduced for a period to house-bound immobility after a merry hack around the local course.

The on-again off-again story of the next seven days will revolve around the wounded knee of Zinedine Zidane. Zidane seems to be a man on the point of completing one of the great years of individual achievement in football, a World Cup win with France Juventus in their European Cup semi-final against Manchester United.

He was forced to limp off half way through his weekend game and now faces what we traditionalists call "A Race Against Time" to get fit for the second-leg of the United match a week today. Zidane injured the knee shortly after



Damaged goods: Olazábal, front, Collymore, left. Merson and Zidane have suffered physical and mental wear and tear

the World Cup, then he did it again and now he has done it a third time. Clearly, the sensible answer is not to play foot-

The psychological wear and tear is as extreme as the physi-cal stresses. Players' minds and hodies are, like grand prix cars, stretched beyond the limits of reliability. So breakdowns occur again and again, every day. Poor old Paul Merson was in tears again last performance as substitute. He stands as a living example of the problems of keeping normality and the sporting life in balance.

Stan Collymore, his club colleague at Aston Villa, is a now famous example of a footballer with mental scars. Ronaldo was under such severe mental and physical

'Few escape without some kind of long-running niggling,

nagging ache' stress that he had a fit before he took to the field for Brazil in the World Cup final. The

world is full of damaged ath-Obviously, this is true for the professionals, who accept a life of great physical and mental stress in exchange for

great rewards of money, fame,

glory and achievement. We ordinary chaps who do it just to keep fit are in a different category, but it doesn't stop sport being extremely bad for

Training for the London Marathon - Everyman's Everest — is a classic example. Road-runners generally damage the knee joints and will pay for it later in life.

No one has ever confused me with a professional athlete. essor a damaged person. Right arm never quite right too much diving about as a goalkeeper and wicketkeeper, though I prefer to blame my one game of polo. And of late, I have been going through a period of some stress, and all

to do with horses. In fact, it is a relief to get away from the stresses of the with it if it was good.

sporting life and get down to a bit of hard graft. Sport is an appallingly stressful business. for mind and body alike, no matter what level you do it at. Few escape without some kind of long-running niggling, nagging ache and those who participate in it seldom do so without worry and care.

And that's why we like it. That's why we do it, because the stresses excite, involve, lift us. Stress is something we many people like playing sport and that is why we like watching it, the uniquely public and debilitating stresses of professional sporting life are what make people such as Olazábal and Zidane, Merson and Ronaldo, enthralling. Of course sport is bad for you. We wouldn't have anything to do

TENNIS

Top names bring fizz to Stella event

By ALIX RAMSAY, TENNIS CORRESPONDENT

THE clay-court season has minute, depending on his hardly begun and already British thoughts are turning to the grass after Stella Artois announced the line-up for their traditional pre-Wimbledon event at Queen's Club. Tim Henman and Greg Rusedski will lead the British challenge. but their paths to the latter stages will be anything but clear with six of the world's top Il men commined to play.

Yevgeny Kafelnikov, the Australian Open champion and world No 3, leads the initial list of entrants, along with former Stella Artois champions. Todd Martin, conqueror of Rusedski during the Davis Cup in Birmingham two weeks ago, and Mark Philippoussis. Scott Draper, the defending champion. Michael Chang and Thomas Enqvist have also signed up.

Pete Sampras has, as is his wont, asked for a wild card to be reserved for him. He will leave his final decision about whether to play until the last

progress in the French Open. This is the 21st year of the lournament and, with the millennium in mind, several young prospects of the ATP (Association of Tennis Professionals) Tour, such as Lleyton Hewitt. Marat Safin and Jan-Michael Gambill, will meet more experienced names, but while they have all either won a Tour event, beaten a top-five player or lasted glory in the Davis Cup, what they will make of grass beneath their

feet remains to be seen. For the first time, BBC television will screen all seven days of the event, while the centre court seaong capacity has increased to nearly 6.400. Should the weather be inclement, a raincheck system is in place offering ticket-holders a full refund should there be less than two hours of play. At the rain-soaked 1998 event, refunds cost the organisers nearly £1.5 million.

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 41 **FAINHEAD**

(b) Gladness and joy. From the Old English and Old Norse fain meaning chuffed. "Hit shalle fille you with fainhead." GODDARD

(a) A drinking-cup or gobles, From the Old French godars. A document of 1397 records "le grant godart de la cuisine". FLAPDOODLE

(b) Food for fools. Cf. fadoodle something foolish or ridiculous, **GLYCONIC**

(a) Epithel of a lyric metre or verse, essentially a logacedic tetrapody consisting of three trochees and a dactyl. Also (of a poem, stanza, etc.) composed or consisting of such verses.

SOLUTION TO WINNING MOVE 1 Rf7! Qxf7 2 Nxd6+ winning the queen.

Living for Las Vegas

ITV. 9pm

As Julie Walters says to Brenda Blethyn at one As Julie Walters says to Brenda Blethyn at one point, this is like Thelma and Louise. But to its credit, it's not too much like that particular exercise in feminine fantasy. Instead, Kay Mellor's film is a rather grittler, more British affair. Best friends Blethyn and Walters share everything, even the six-figure jackpot at bingo which precipitates Walters leaving her husband to move in with the bingo-hall manager. Blethyn, meanwhile, pays off her mortgage but simultaneously finds that she has multiple cancers, for which the treatments seem worse than the fatal prognosis. Walters whisks her off to Las Vegas, where they meet rodeo-rider Kris Kristofferson, an apparent perfect rodeo-rider Kris Kristofferson, an apparent perfect last fling, thinks Walters, for Blethyn.

The Naked Chef BBC2.8pm

A new series from the makers of Two Fat Ladies. Jamie Oliver is a 23-year-old London chef whose presentational skills might be unpolished but whose skill and enthusiasm are undeniable. He may need prompting by an unseen female behind the carnera, but his grasp of the essentials of cooking is clear. He eschews fancy names and time-consuming techniques to bring adventurous yet simple cookery within reach of the viewer, both yet simple cookery within reaction the young and inexperienced, who can be intimidated by the bland assurance of the monstrous regiment of telecooks. His is a natural manner which invites you in rather than dazzling you with expertise.

The Unseen Royal Family ITV, 8pm

Not an expose of the farther reaches of the Civil List, mysterious cousins locked away in asytums or minor scions of unguessed-at hideousness, but a brisk trot through home movies, relatively rare footage of the Royal Family on parade or al ease, and eyewitness accounts of encounters with them. There's quite a bit about Diana, Princess of Wales,



Annual Agency Ag

Brenda Blethyn and Julie Walters head for Las Vegas in Girls' Night (ITV, 9pm)

but almost as much about the Queen, both as Princess Elizabeth and, touchingly, on her several visits to the stricken Welsh village of Aberfan. The Prince of Wales also gets a reassessment, as a decent sort, going out of his way to be fair and non-discriminatory. Some may feel that there is a little 100 much from Ivor Spence, a toastmaster and butler-trainer, but he's entertaining enough and he can genuinely claim to have had extensive acquaintance with the family of Windso rs.

BBC2.7.30pm

Choice Chatwin

Radio 4, 9,45am

Now here's a funny thing, or at least it should be, preview tapes not being available at the time of going to press. Ahead of the 1999 London Marathon, a film report on the classical origins of the race, from the Battle of Marathon, 2.500 years ago, to the modern Olympic Games. The presenter is Chris Eubank, the famously elegant former boxing champion, idiosyncrade of pronunciation and now revealed as a lover of both the warrior ethic and 19th-century heroic poetry. Also tonight:

Steve Jones reports on the first experiments, in Des Steve Jones reports on the first experiments, in Des Moines, lowa, in the 1920s, on genetically modified food crops. Tony Patrick

In the book world, the tenth anniversary of Bruce

Charwin's death will long be remembered for the huge criocal acclaim that has greeted the publication of Nicholas Shakespeare's biography

of the travel writer and novelist. The radio world, too, must be rather pleased with itself, When Radio 4 planned its week of celebrations to mark the

Chatwin anniversary, it couldn't possibly have known that it would be able to bask in Shakespeare's reflected glory. Six of Chatwin's tales are being broadcast this week and Shakespeare was selected as one of the quartet of

readers. This morning, in an extract from The Songlines, he tells the story of a plucky aboriginal missionary, Pather Flynn Peter Davalle

BBC WORLD SERVICE

5.00am The World Today 6.00 The World Today 7.00 World News 7.15 Outlook 7.55 My Century 8.00 World News 8.05 World Business Report 8.15 insight 8.30 Sports International 9.00 World News 9.05 Westway 9.20 Off the Shell News 01 A Kiginapping 9.35 One Planet 10.00 World News 10.05 Sounds Right 10.20 Blues World 10.50 Sports Round-Up 11.00 Newsdesk 11.30 Britain Today 11.45 World Business Report 12.00 Newsdesk 12.30pm Sports International 1.00 World News 1.05 Outlook 1.45 Sports Round-Up 2.00 Newshour 3.00 World News 3.05 One Planet 3.30 Meridian Live 4.00 World News 4.05 Sports Round-Up 4.15 From Our Own Outlook 9.405 Sports Round-Up 4.15 From Our Own

World News 3.05 One Planet 3.30 Meridian Live 4.00 World News 4.05 Sport a Round-Up 4.15 From Our Own Correspondent 4.30 Jazzmatazz 5.00 Europe Today 5.30 World Business Report 5.45 Insight 6.00 Newsdesk 6.30 Performance 6.45 Sports Round-Up 7.00 World News 7.15 British Today 7.30 Sports International 8.00 World News 8.05 One Planet 8.30 From Our Own Correspondent 8.45 Off the Shelf: News Of A Kidnapping 9.00 Newshour 10.00 World News 10.05 World Business Report 10.20 Britain Today 10.30 On Screen 11.00 World News 11.15 Sports Round-Up 11.30 Andy Kershaw's World of Music 12.00 World News 12.05am Outlook 12.45 Insight 1.00 The World Today 1.30 One Planet 1.55 My Century 2.00 The World Today 2.30 Meridian Live 3.00 The World Today 3.30 World Business Report 3.45 Insight 4.00 The World Today 4.20 Sports Round-Up 4.30 The World Today

CLASSIC FM

6.00em Nick Bailey's Easter Breaklast 8.00 Henry Kelly

6.00mm Nock genery's caser breadast 8.00 Herry Republications the Hall of Fame Hour 12.00 Lunchtime Requests. Jane Jones spins listeners' tavourites 2.00pm Concerto. Grechaninov (Cello Concerto) 3.00 Jame Crok. Including Continuous Classics and Attemoor Romence 6.30 Newshight Headlines, and news and guests 7.00 Smooth Classics at

Seven, John Brunning Introduces easy-listening sounds 9.00 Evening Concert Strauss (Overture, Die Fledermaust, Rachmentow (Phagsody on a Theme of Pagainti), Shostakovich (Flormanice from The Gadfly), Prokoflev (March ol

the Knights]; Tcharkovsky (Piano Concerto No 1 in B mino) 11.00 Mann at Night 2.00am Concerto (r) 3.00 Mark Griffiths

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RADIO CHOICE

Melt/The End of the World Radio 4, 11.30am/9pm

Today is not a good day on Radio 4 if you want to contemplate tomorrow with a smile on your face. Worse, there may not even be a tomorrow. This much can be inferred from the absence of a question-mark in the othe The End of the World. So, it's a statement of fact, not conjecture. The only unresolved element in John Gribbin's investi-gation is not if universal apocalypse comes but how it will come. Several doomsday scenarios are offered, including being pulverised by a gigantic asteroid and being barbecued by the greenhouse effect. Pete Lawson's noisy and frenzied comedy Melt opts for annihilation by nightmare heatwave in which Big Ben dissolves and becomes Little

RADIO 1 (BBC)

6.30am Zoe Ball 5.00 Simon Mayo 12.00 Jo Whiley 3.00pm Chris Moyles 5.45 Newsbeat 6.00 Dave Pearce 8.00 Sleve Lamacc; The Evening Session 10.00 Movie Update with Mark Kermode 10.10 John Peel 12.00 Gilles Peterson 2.00am Clive Warren 4.00 Scott Milis

RADIO 2 (BBC)

6.00em Sarah Kennedy 7,30 Wake Up to Wogan 9,30 Richard Alfreon 12.00 Jimmy Young 2.00pm Ed Stewert 6.05 Johnnie Walker 7,00 Nick Barrackough 8,00 Mike Harding 9,00 Giants of Soul, Daryl Hall profiles Otis Redding (3/8) 10.00 Tom Paxton: Stif Ramblin' (2/8) 10.30 Lynn Persons 12.00 Katrina Leskenich 3,00em Alex Lester

RADIO 5 LIVE (BBC)

5.00cm Morning Reports 6.00 Breaklast 9.00 Nicky Campbell 12.00 The Midday News with Allan Robb 1.00pm Ian Payne 4.00 Drive 7.00 News Extra with Annie Webster 7.30 John Inverdale's Football Night. Coverage of the night's big football matches. Plus, the National Lottery Draw 10.00 Littlejohn. No-norsense lootball talk on toright's European and domestic action 11.00 Late Night Live 1.00am Up Ali Night

TALK RADIO

6.00mm The Big Boys Breaklast 9.00 Scott Chisholm & Sally James 12.00 Let's Talk Pets 1.00pm Anna Raebum 4.00 The Sports Zone 7.00 Off Side with Sebastian Coe 8.00 The Big

VIRGIN

6.30am The Breakfast Show 9.30 Russ Williams 1.00pm Nick Abbot 4.00 Harriet Scott 6.45 Pete and Geoff 10.00 Gary Davies 1.00am Richard Allen 4.30 Phil Kennedy

6.00am On Air with Petroc Trelawny, Including a review of the new production of Candide at the Royal National Theatre
8.00 Manterworks with Peter Hobday, Grieg (Peer Gynt Suite No 1); Mozart (Adagio and Fugue in C minor, K546); Bartok (Piano Concerto No 2)
10.30 Artist of the Week: Moura Lympany
11.00 Sound Stories: Architects Peggy Reynolds remembers Pallacio
12.00 Composer of the Week: J.C. Bach
1.00pm The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert Artur Pazarro, pano, Granados (Los requietros:

Anglophiles. Foreign-born artists and thinkers choose their lavourite examples of British achievements in the postwar arts 8.35 Concert, per two. Bliss (Celio Concerto); Richard Rodney Bennett (Concerto for orchestra) 9.40 Postscript: Seamus Heaney at 60 (3/5) 10.00 The Plano Piers Lane investigates the world of the piano past and present

10.00 The Plano Piers Lane investigates the world of the piano past and present
11.00 Night Waves Laura Cummin talks to the controversial art histonan James Beck, whose new study of Michelangelo calls for a radical rethinking of the file and work of the Renaissance master
11.30 Jazzz Notes Alyn Shipton presents the singer Salena Jones with the Great British Jazz: Band recorded as part of the Chrichester Festival's Jazz Parade concert

Parade concert

12.00 Through the Night Includes 12.05 Mozart

Through the Night Includes 12.05 Mozart (Overture: Coss fan tutta) 12.10 Bach, reconstr (Overture: Coss fan tutta) 12.10 Bach, reconstr (Coprana (Cantata No 190) 12.25 Otto Dutch (Overture: The Croatran Girl) 12.40 Szymanowski (String Quartet No 1 . D minor) 1.45 Mozart (String Quartet in B flat, K458, Huntl) 2.15 Cherubini (Requisern No 1 in C minor) 3.00 Tchaikovsky (Suite No 1 in D] 3.40 Brahms (Hunganan Dances for piano duel) 3.55 Mozart (Sintonia concertante in E flat, K364) 4.35 Mozart (Ballet music: Les petits nens. K299b) 5.10 Corelli (Trio Sonata no 6) 5.25 Vanhal (Symphony in A minor) 5.40 Ravel (Tzigane) 5.50 Schreker (Valse lente)

1.00pm The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert Artur
Pazarro, piano, Granados (Los requiebros;
Coloquio en la reja; El fandango del Candill;
Quejas o la maya y el ruisenor; El amor y la
muerie; Epilogo, Goyescasi (r)
2.00 The BBC Orchestras BBC National Orchestra ol
Wales, Mozart (Symphoriy No 46 in C. K425, Linz);
Dvorak (Cello Concerto in B minor), Beethoven
[Symphoriy No 3 in F, Pestoral)
4.00 Choral Evensong From Truro Cathedral.
Organist and master of the choristers Andrew
Netheingha. Assistant organist Simon Morley
5.00 in Tune Humphrey Carpenter's guests include the
soprano Emma Kridoy
7.30 Performance on 3: Endless Parade (Sounding
the Century) Live from the Hippodrome, Golders
Green, London, Malcolm Blinis, plano, Robert
Coften, cello, BBC Concert Orchestra under Barry
Wordsworth. Amold (Four Scothsh Dances),
Rawsthome (Piano Concerto No 2) 8.15

5.47 Farming Today Anna Hill presents
6.00 Today with James Naughtle and John Humphrys
8.35 (LW) Yesterday in Parliament Update on the latest political developments
9.00 Michaels with the Times Columnist Libby Purves
9.45 (FM) Serial: Choice Chatwin Extracts from

9.45 (FM) Serial: Choice Chetwin Extracts from Bruce Chatwin's The Songlines See Choice a.45 (LW) Delly Service
10.00 Women's Hour with Jenn Murray and guests includes Dieny of a Provincial Lady
11.00 The Yellow Cliffs of Dover Chris Bowlby explores the Iown's identity as one of the country's busiest ports
11.30 Meft Pele Lawson's comedy about Londoners in the grip of a heatwave. With Deve Brooks and Kety Carmichael. See Choice
12.00 (LY) News Headlines; Shipping Forecast
12.00 (FM) News 12.04pm You and Yours with Mark Whittaker and Traze Rawlinson
1.00 The World at One with Nick Clarks

Whittaker and Trose Rawlinson

1.00 The World at One with Nick Clarke

1.30 Points of Law New senes. Popular legal quiz, chaired by Richard Evans

2.00 The Archers Yesterday's edition (r)

2.15 Afternoon Play: Airswinning Charlotte Jones's uphiting comedy of linendship, lantasy and freedom, set in the 1920s and starring Sophie Thompson. Charlotte Jones and Marria Wanen Info

Thompson, Cheriotte Jones and Marcia Wanen (r)
3.00 Gardeners' Question Time (r)
3.30 A Name to Remember Barbara Myers examines

the life and work of enalomist Thomas Hodgkin, the man Hodgkin's disease is named after (3/5)

3.45 This Sceptred Isle Anna Massey namates part 73 of the history of Britain (r)

4.00 Thinking Allowed Professor Ellen Barker discusses her research into the many tacets of laith around the world

4.30 Case Notes Graham Easion takes a look at the heart and circulatory system (r)
5.00 PM with Clare English and Chris Lowe
6.00 Six O'Clock News
6.30 King Street Junior Jim Eldindge's connedy drama set in a junior school Rumours spread like wildfire, creating a nightmare scenario for Mr Sims, Karl Howman stars (3/6) (r)
7.00 The Archers The latest events from Ambindge 7.15 Front Row Mark Lawson reviews the National Theatre's new production of Candide
7.45 Diary of a Provincial Lady Part eight of E.M. Dietalleld's household journal, dramatised by Jane Rogers. Broadcast earlier as part of Worman's Hour [r]

Woman's Hour Irl

8.00 The 1999 Reith Lectures Anthony Giddens.
Director of the LSE, gives the second of fine lectures, locusing on the difficulties of managing life. Introduced by Matt Frei (2/5)

9.00 The End of the World John Gribbin invites

9.00 The End of the World John Gribbin invites experts to speculaite on the probable causes of Armageddon See Choice
9.30 Midweek Broadcast earlier (r)
10.00 The World Tonight Justin Webb presents
10.45 Book at Beditime: Archangel Alan Howard reads part eight of Robert Harris' Infilier (r)
11.00 Late Night on 4: Old Harry's Game Andy Hamilton's award-winning comedy, set in Hell, starring James Grout and Jimmy Mulvitle Satan enters Scumspawn's brain (4/6)
11.30 (FM) I'm Glad You Asked Me That Officeal

11.30 (FM) I'm Glad You Asked Me That Officeal Guide to modern living, with Michael Byweter.
Sean Meo and Philip Pope (3/6) (f)
11.30 (LW) Today in Parliament Political news
12.00 News 12.30am The Late Book: Barthly Joys
Kevin Whately reads part eight of Philippa
Gregory's novel (i)
12.48 Shipping Forecast 1.00 As World Service

FREQUENCY GUIDE. RADIO 1. FM 97.6-99.8. RADIO 2. FM 88.0-90.2. RADIO 3. FM 90.2-92.4. RADIO 4. FM 92.4-94.6: LW 198; MW 720. RADIO 5 LIVE. MW 633, 909. WORLD SERVICE. MW 648; LW 198 (12.45-5.55em). CLASSIC FM. FM 100-102. VIRGIN RADIO. FM 105.8; MW 1197, 1215. TALK RADIO. MW 1053, 1089. Television and radio listings compiled by Perry Cleveland-Peck, tan Hughes, Gilliam Maxey, Jane Gregory and Barry O'Keefe

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Around the world with Directory Enquiries

REVIEW

Peter

Barnard

he first couple of para-graphs of this review have had to be smuggled past the news editor under the protection of large men with shaved heads because the news editor is not a person who likes to find himself trawling the back end of the paper of a morning only to encounter a world exclusive he has missed. Too bad, says I. Eat your heart out.

WRIL 14 1999

CARLES DE LA COMPANIE

1011

The startling revelation that Richard Branson does not carry the Prime Minister's telephone number about with him came in The Mission: The Great Balloon Race (BBCI) last night. It is hard to say whether this omission will do more harm to Branson or Tony Blair but what it does help to show is that Branson is a past master of public relations. The programme was not even about him, yet here he is hogging the headlines.

The programme was actually about the successful round-theworld-trip in March by Breitling

Orbiter 3, one of the few balloons of recent years that has gone up without having Branson in it. In a way Branson played his part in the success, for had his last attempt at the record not ended in failure the Breitling trip would not have happened at all.

It was during the section about Branson that we learnt the shortcomings of his little black book. When Branson was trying to get permisssion to cross Chinese airspace he contacted his flight controller and told him to ring up Downing Street. As you do. There followed a bizarre exchange, during which Branson's staff had to be told that the best way to get a number for No 10 would be to ring Directory Enquiries.

Still, eventually Blair was contacted and he faxed a letter to the Chinese and they in turn relented. Or, as my own man in Beijing put it: "Mr Brares barroon fliend fry over China, no plobrem." The plo-

brem was, of course, to come near Honolulu, where Branson had to ditch last Christmas Day, leaving the way open for Breitling Orbiter 2 and its rival, the Cable and Wireless balloon. As with racing yachts and footballers, balloons now carry the romantic names of their sponsors. A modern Owl and his Pussycat would go to sea in a beautiful Heinz Peas multihull.

rian Jones and Bertrand Piccard, the crew of Orbiter 3, may not have possessed quite as much in the way of sparkling teeth as Branson but they come across as a couple of modest, dedicated heroes who, filmed at the moment they completed the record, embraced with the self-conscious awkwardness of men who would just as soon have been doing this without anyone knowing about it, but for the need for somebody with deep pockets. There is something inherently

programme conveyed it well. Notwithstanding the fax machines, camcorders, e-mail and satellite telephones that are now de rigueur on such a trip, a balloon is a balloon and as such it has an imperious quality quite absent from any other form of transport. You feel that a balloon has a mind

of its own, which in a way it does:

it is called the wind.

romantic about ballooning and the

and Piccard nearly died because something went wrong with the air-purification plant on board. Neither man realised what had happened for 24 hours though both felt breathless. They donned oxygen masks while the fault was sorted out.

The moment when they landed in the desert at the end of the trip was magical. They set up a camera to film themselves. There was nobody else present. Just them, the deflating balloon and the desert. They strolled about, laughing. Watching them, you felt almost as good as they must have done.

Birds and other animals travel around the world without sponsors, unless you count the BBC Natural History Unit. But these creanires do have all sorts of fancy equipment given to them by nature. Supernatural: The Unseen Powers of Animals (BBCI) is

I had not realised until last a series that has so far been as fas-night's film that at one point Jones cinating for its filming techniques as any facts it has uncovered, but last night's Hidden Forces had fascination in both respects.

The subject was how creatures use senses to "read" the Earth's magnetic field and find their way around. There are some birds, for example, that have magnetic sensors in their retinas which "see" a coloured spot showing the position of magnetic north relative to its flight path. I have a daughter who could use one of those every time she gets in a car.

reen turtles, which return J to the very beach on which they were born 30 years earlier, use magnetised particles known as magnetite that measure the strength of the magnetic field and its angle to the Earth, thus giving the creamre something resembling Ordnance Survey map, only

better: it doesn't wrap itself round your head in a wind.

I think this series has fallen too deeply in love with its own ability to get a camera up the nose of anything that swims, crawls, scuttles or flies, with the result that there were moments last night when I was diving for cover like Tippi Hedren in The Birds. That and the irritating music are the only downsides of a series that is otherwise exemplary.

The best character in last night's film was the orange ladybird. which ought to be given a job at the Met Office. The orange ladybird uses methods it has so far kept secret to predict whether the British winter will be severe or mild, thus enabling it to choose a hibernation spot that is either underground or merely sheltered. The ladybird has been studied for ten years and in every year it got the forecast right. Over to you, Michael Fish.

BBC1 6.00am Business Breakfast (14998) 7.00 BBC Breakfast News (T) (43337) 9.00 Kilroy (T) (9992462) 9.45 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (T) (385733) 10.15 The Vanessa Show (T) (4699266) 11.00 News; Weather (T) (5853066) 11.05 City Hospital (T) (9063795) 11.55 News; Weather (T) (8340658) 12.00 Going for a Song (8100895) 12.25pm Wipeout (1683630) 12.50 The Weather Show (T) (76821627) 1.00 One O'Clock News (T) (46424)

1.40 Neighbours (T) (16159269) 2.05 Ironaide (r) (1047627) 2.55 Through the Keyhole |r) (T) (2006882) 3.25 Children's BBC; Playdays (8443066) 3.45 Starhill Ponies (4096578) 3.50 Hububb (7974578) 4.10 Adventures of Shirley Holmes (7209288) 4.35 Demon Headmaster (7431511) 5.00 Newsround

1.30 Regional News; Weather (58991172)

(5470608) 5.10 Blue Peter (2231207) 5.35 Neighbours (r) (T) (259240) 6.00 Six O'Clock News; Weather (T) (801) 6.30 Regional News Magazine (153)

7.00 Holiday on a Shoestring Craig Doyle visits Dublin and Michael McNaily samples the delights of Magalul in

Majorca (6/6) (T) (8578) 7.30 Tomorrow'a World Peter Snow reports from New Zealand on a ploneering method of gold excavation (T) (337) 6.00 Changing Rooms Sisters redecorate each other's rooms (r) (T) (4998)

8.30 Bettersea Dogs' Home New series. Uonel Blair, shows off his Bettersea pets Florence and Jenny (T) (524172) 8.50 The National Lottery: Great

with Angela Griffin (T) (419801) 9.00 Nine O'Clock News; Regional News; Weather (T) (570608) 9.34 National Lottery Update (253733) 9.35 Under Siege II: Dark Territory (1995)

Premiere. Sleven Seagal returns as the US Navy SEAL-tumed-chel, who this time embarks on a journey with his niece and ends up trying to save his fellow passengers from a criminal. Directed by Geoff Murphy (T) (9229527)

An Ideal Husband and Return to Paradise



Dustin Hoffman stars as a student caught up in espionage (11.40pm)

11.40 Marathon Man (1976) Dustin Holiman stars in this thriller about a student whose brother is murdered by a Nazi war omninal. With Laurence Olivier and Roy Scheider. Directed by John Schlesinger 1.35am Weather (2175554)

1.40 BBC News 24 (86826486)

WALES OF SELECTION 9.30-9.34 Party Election Broadcast (253733) 1.35am-1.40 News; Weather (T) (2175554)

7.00am Children's BBC Breakfast Show: Jam Children's BBC Breakfast Show:
Polka Dot Shorts (5308424) 7.10 The
Silver Brumby (9884578) 7.35 Top Cat
(8296714) 7.55 The Bots Master
(8290530) 8.20 Helpi it's the Heir Bear
Bunch (8905801) 8.40 Trading Places
(9189207) 9.08 Rewind (3123153) 9.10
Goober and the Ghost Chasers
(7980608) 9.35 Student Bodies
(8638240) 10.00 Taletubbies (30375)
10.30 Fili.M: Babes in Toyland 10.30 FILM: Babes in Toyland (20158714) 12.10pm The Car's the Star (7728424) 12.30 Working Lunch (54882)

1.00 Brum (38133849) 1.10 The Leisure Hour (r) (1735153) 2.10 Sporting Greats (89807801) 2.40 News; Weather (T) (8218153) 2.45 Westminster (T) (5802694)

3.55 News: Weather (T) (7013269) 4.00 The Village (r) (7023646) 4.25 Ready, Steady, Cook (T) (7026733) 4.55 Esther (r) (T) (9218443) 5.30 Whose House? (530)

8.00 Star Trek: The Next Generation Data is understandably relieved to learn his head has been relocated (r) (T) (188530) 6.45 Buffy the Vampire Stayer Buffy and Angel discover something is digging up and dismembering corpses (T) (506207)



Chris Eubenk exemines the history of marathon races (7.30pm)

7.30 Leviethan New series. Chris research the history of the marathon race (T) (207)

8.00 CHOICE The Naked Chef New series.
Jamie Oliver demonstrates simple recipes (T) (5240) 8.30 Home Front New series. Jocasta Innes draws on the influence of the American

architect Frank Lloyd Wright (T) (4375) 9.00 Three Fights, Two Weddings and e Funeral Spool home video depicting the eventful marriage of brassy good-time girl Paulina Caff (r) (T) (501578) 9.35 Louis Theroux'a Weird Weekends The

intrepid reporter meets members of a growing number of American militia. groups (4/4) (r) (T) (842337) 10.33 Video Nation Shorts (T) (540714) 10.35 Newsnight (T) (983375)

11.20 The Battle for Congress The 1998 California race for Congress (T) (128648) 11.55 Weather (284066) 12.00 Despatch Box (31414)

12.30em BBC Learning Zone: Open University: The Chemistry of Survival 1.00 The Chemistry of Power 1.30 The Chemistry of Life and Death 2.00 Exam Chemistry of Life and Death 2.00 Exam Revision: GCSE Bitestze Revision — History 4.00 Languages. Deutsch Plus 5.00 Business and Training: So You Wart to Work in Social Care? 5.30 20 Steps to Better Management 5.45 Open University: Why Do Peacocks Have Elaborate Trains? 6.10 Sexual Selection and Speciation 8.35 Horses for Courses: An Evolutionary Radiation

5.30am ITV Morning News (50288) 6.00 GMTV (2835172) 9.25 Trisha (T) (3588443) 10.30 This Morning (T) (49195511) 12.15pm HTV News (T) (7058795) 12.30 ITV Lunchtime News (T) (2689849)

12.55 Shortland Street Rechael and Martin get closer (1748627) 1.30 Lie Detector (T) (16148153) 1.55 The Jerry Springer Show Outrageous talk show (T) (5006511)

2.40 Wheel of Fortune (T) (2002066) 3.10 ITV News Headlines (T) (5703462) 3.15 HTV News (T) (5702733) 3.20 CITV: Meisy (5709646) 3.25 The Story Store (6727882) 3.40 Jumanii (2426801) 4.05 Hey Amold (7007608) 4.35 Wildtrack (7486207)

5.00 Lie Detector (r) (T) (3882) 5.30 WEST: Live and Local Reports from Devizes in Wiltshire (356) 5.30 WALES: Up Beat Welsh acts that have made it big in London (6/6) (T) (356) 5.58 HTV Weather (880646)

6.00 HTV News (T) (269) 6.25 WALES: Party Election Broadcast By the Conservative and Umonist Party 6.29 HTV Crimestoppers (487462)

6.29 WALES: Crimestoppers (487462) 6.30 ITV Evening News; Weather (T) (849) 7.00 Emmerdale Mandy confronts Paddy's mum (T) (3646) 7.30 Coronation Street Linds drives a wedge between Kevin and Alison (T) (733)



A chance to see rare footage of Disma, Princess of Wales (8pm)

8.00 CEDICE The Unseen Royal Family
One-off documentary in which
ordinary people recount their experiences of meeting members of the Royal Family (T) (4065)

9.00 CROICE Girls' Night A dying women hits the bingo jackpot and uses the cash to take her sister-in-law to gamblers' paradise Las Vegas (T) (7172) 11.00 ITV Nightly News; Weather (T) (902530) 11.20 HTV News and Weather (T) (811849) 11.30 The Big Match Manchester United Arsenal (81795)

12.30am A Child Lost Forever (1992) A woman tries to contact the son she gave up for adoption 19 years earlier, only to make a shocking discovery. Tearjarker, starring Beverly D'Angelo. Directed by Claudia Werll (T) (115554)

2.15 Gaolbreak (1962) Crooks spring an old friend from prison so he can take part in a safe-blowing raid. Come drame with safe-blowing raid. Come drama, with Peter Reynolds and Carol Write. Directed by Francis Searle (8764738)

3.25 Trisha Shown earlier (r) (T) (2172776) 4.25 Bugs Burny (r) (66597365) 4.50 ITV Nightscreen Behind the scenes of ITV programmes (74319196) 5.00 Coronation Street (r) (T) (78825)

CENTRAL

As HTV West except: 12.20-12.30pm Central News; Weather (9276424)

12.55 Lie Detector (2657240) 7.00 The Big Breakfast (69375) 1.25 Tha Jerry Springer Show (4838356) 2.10-2.40 Echo Point (89801627)

3.15-3.20 Central News; Weather (5702733) 5.30 Shortland Street (356) 6.00-6.30 Central News at Sbc Weather

11.20-11.30 Central News; Weather (811849) 4.25am Central Jobfinder '99 (7094467) 5.20-5.30 Asian Eye (9503738)

WESICOONING

As HTV West except: 12.15pm Westcountry News (7058795) 12.27-12.30 Huminations (9284443)

12.55-1.25 Westcountry Lunchtime Live: Weather (2657240) 1.25 The Jerry Springer Show (4838355) 2.10-2.40 Lie Detector (89801627) 3.15-3.20 Westcountry News; Weather

(5702733)4.59-5.00 Birthday People (3539408) 5.30 Peter Gorton For Starters (356) 6.00-6.30 Westcountry Live (269) 11.20-11.30 Westcountry News; Weather

A SALE MERCHANICAL SALE

As HTV West except 12.15pm-12.30 Meridian News; Weather (7058795) 5.30 Big Day Out (4/5) (r) (366) 6.00-6.30 Meridian Tonig (269) 7.29-7.30 Meridian Weather (514375) 11.20-11.30 Meridian News; Weather (T) (811849) 5.00am-5.30 Freescreen (T) (78825)

As HTV West except: 12.14pm Anglia Air Watch (9296288) 12.15-12.30 Anglia News and Weather" (7058795) '5.29 Anglia Air Watch (1973068) - 5.30-6.00 Whipsnade (12/13) (1) (356) 6.00-8.30 Anglia News (1) 11.20-11.30 Anglia News and Weather (T)

Starts: 5.55am Sesame Street (r) (28981443) 7.00 The Big Breakfast (69838207) 9.00 The Bigger Breakfast (92141998) 9.05 Saved by the Bell (T) (92998714) 9.30 Sam and Max (93299849) 10.00 CatDog (54686066) 10.20 Boy Meets World (T) (54695714) 10.45 Moesha (12074379) 11.15 Tha Bigge Breakfast (25206066) 11.30 Powerhouse (T (90533801) 12.00 Home Improvement (T (63379269) 12.30pm Sesame Street (T) (693260337) 1.00 Planed Plant (T) (69808066) 1.30 The Ocean World of John Stoneman (r) (99174337) 1.55 Racing from Newmarket and Cheltenham (15295795) 4,00 Fifteen-to-One (T) (99200527) 4,30 Ricki Lake (T) (99299511) 5,00 Planed Plant (T) (1) (39535356) 7.00 Pobol y Cwm (1) (41691288) 7.30 Electoral Broadcast (58712191) 7.35 Newyddion (T) (31181207) 8.05 Pfermio (T) (84517462) 8.35 Hawlio (T) (52723627) 9.05 ER (T) (54801004) 10.00 (8273527) 3.05 EA (1) (34601004) 10.00 Brookside (1) (51045356) 10.35 Sex and the City (1) (81037559) 11.05 Eurotrash (85675462) 11.35 The 11 O'Clock Show (98823646) 12.10am Silverstone GT Racing (r) (14002979) 12,45 boardstupid (r) (25269047) 1.50 Football Italia: Mezzanotte (48951776) 4.00 Trans World Sport (34372125) 4.55 Diwedd

CHANNEL 4

5.45am Animai Alphabet (2172608) 5.50 The Magic Roundabout (2736207) 6.00 Sesame Street (r) (71068)

9.00 The Bigger Breakfast (T) (3159578) 9.05 Saved by the Bell (7983795)

9.30 Sam and Max (78462) 10.00 CatDog (3825172) 10.20 Boy Meets World (3834820)

10.45 Moesha (T) (369795) 11.15 The Bigger Breakfast (6381820) 11.30 Powerhouse (T) |B172| 12.00 Sesame Street (r) (T) (21066)

12.30pm Bewitched (r) (T) (89578) 1.00 Caroline in the City (62462) 1.30 The Three Stooges (18146795)

1.55 Racing from Newmarket and Chelten-ham From Newmarket: 2.05 Grantchester Stakes, 2.35 Weatherby's Earl of Selton Stakes, 3.10 Victor Chandler European Free Handicap, and the 3.45 Scottish Equitable Jockeys' Association Handicap Stakes, From Cheltenham; the 2.20 Lynx Express Novices' Handicap Chase and the 2.55 Golden Miller Handicap Stakes (69499820)

4.00 Fifteen-to-One (T) (462) 4.30 Countdown (T) (7465578) 4.55 Ricki Lake (T) (9203511) 5.30 Pet Rescue (T) (998)

6.00 Dawson'a Creek Pacey and Andie get romantic at a homecoming dance — which is more than can be said for Dawson and Joey (T) (104578) 6.50 T4orce Highlights of the week's T4

programmes (970882) 7.00 Channel 4 News; Weather (T) (474269)
7.55 The A-Z of Scotland Items associated with Scotland (T) (381269)

6.00 Brookside The Musgrove (amily dig their



Liza Tarbuck presents a new series

8.30 Sha's Gotta Have It Liza Tarbuck hosts a new series of the lashion magazine (1/10) (T) (9443)

9.00 ER Mark discovers evidence of a medical school indiscretion which could ruin Amanda's career (T) (5191)

10.00 Sex and the City Carrie considers adopting a religion (T) (22795) 10.30 Eurotrash Continental capers with Antoine de Caunes II) (T) (31443)

11.00 The 11 O'Clock Show Topical comedy with lain Lee (9424) 11.30 So Graham Norton Irreverent comedy (r) (T) (374998)

12.10am Silverstone GT Racing Round one of the British GT (r) (7302844) 12.45 boardstupid (r) (5672467) 1.50 Football Italia: Mezzanotte Sene A action (22236660)

4.00 Trans World Sport Global action

4.55 Electric Avenue Brixton's colourful characters (2/4) (r) (T) (42295370)

CHANNEL 5

6.00am 5 News and Sport With Becky Anderson (5796733)

7.00 WideWorld Part nine. The invention of the motor car (i) (T) (2653849)

7.30 Milkshake! (2441207) 7.35 Muppet Bables (4865820)

8.00 Havakazoo (r) (8645153) 8.30 Dappledown Farm (r): 5 News Update

9.00 Hot Property (r) (T) (4516849) 9.25 Russell Grant'a Postcards (3083917)

9.30 The Oprah Winfrey Show (6665801) 10.20 Sunset Beach Ben receives a mysterious call (T) (4058375)

11.10 Leeza (3713240) 12.00 5 News at Noon (T) (8648240) 12.30pm Family Affairs Ben learns Donna likes him (r) (T) (1530199)

1.00 The Bold and the Beautiful Grant asks Eric for his old job back (T) (2645820) 1.30 The Roseanne Show Award-winning entertainment show, presented by comedian; 5 News Update (6485040)

2.00 100 Per Cent Gold (2956337) 2.30 Good Afternoon Daily entertainment: 5 News Update (8549207)

3.30 The Golden Gate Murders (TVM 1979) David Janssen and Susannah York star in this murder myslery about a detective and a nun investigating the suspicious death of a pnest. Directed by Walter Grauman (2716795)

5.20 5 News (T) (59073849) 5.25 Russell Grant's Postcards Switzerland

(59065820) 5.30 100 Per Cent (r) (6943004)

6.00 5 News; Weather Round-up of the day's stories, including First on Five (1) 6.30 Family Affairs The boys inspect their haul (T); 5 News Update (6931269)

7.00 Knight Rider Michael is called in to Investigate the theft of a high-tech missile-firing helicopter. Staming David Hasselhoff (7): 5 News Updata (9125172) 8.00 My Titaric Account of the 1996 Eurotunnel fire from the perspective of

the lear that he left at being trapped in a smoke-filled compartment 300ft under the English Channel and some 12 miles Irom safety (T): 5 News Update (9134820) 9.00 Born Bad (TVM 1997) Three juvenile delinquents attempt to rob a bank — but

disaster strikes as the police move in, leaving them lacing a battle to save the lives of everyone involved in their scheme. Action thriller, with Corey Feldman, James Remar and Justin Walker. Directed by Jeff Yonis (T): 5 News Updale (23342172)

10.40 Not the Jack Docherty Show Lively chat show (4444511) 11.20 UK Raw A professional dominatrix (8/10)

11.50 Major League Baseball Live Big-hitting action from the States, presented by Jonathan Gould (35704284)

4.30am Australian Rules Football Action from Down Under (7022478) 5.30 100 Per Cent (r) (6730283)

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SATELLITE, CABLE AND DIGITAL

• For further listings see Saturday's Vision SKY ONE

7.00am Couri Duckule (96443) 7.30 Grimmy (15578) 8.00 Earthworm Jim (77258) 8.30 Godzila (66240) 9.00 non (83820) 9.30 Simpsons (94424) 10.00 Shadow Raders (58795) 10.30 Xena (53820) 11.30 Legend of the Hidden City (11627) 12.00 Tarzan (17375) 1.00pm Mad 11627) 12.00 Terzen (17375) 1.00pm Med About You (85714) 1.30 Jeoperdy (97511) 2.00 Safty Jessy Rapinael (59424) 6.00 Jenny Jones (15443) 4.00 Pokermon (6004) 4.30 Shadow Raders (2288) 5.00 Sar Trek Deep Space Nine (9849) 6.00 America's Dumbesi Criminals (3153) 6.30 Finends (7733) 7.00 The Simpsons (8838) 7.30 The Simpsons (3817) 8.00 Morral Nombol 152482) 6.00 X Files (4998) 1 0.00 Mami Unovered (42085) 11.00 Finends (35207) 11.30 Star Trek, Deep Space Nine (58066) 12.30em Law and Order (42573) 1.00 Long 12.30em Law and Order (42573) 1.00 Long Play (4596641)

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Mousehunt (1997) SAY 80Y OFFICE 4 (Transponder 58) Hard Rain (1996) SKY PREMIER

6.00em Courage Mountain (1990) 11:511| 8.00 Land Before Time Y: Myst-Pirit B,00 Land Before Time Y: Byz-erious Island (1997) (71646) 15.00 Home Alone (1991) (7668) 13.00 Courage Mountain (1990) (61269) 2.00pm Speed Mountain (1990) (61269) 2.00pm Speed II: Cruise Control (1997) (5526817) 4.05 Land Sefore Time Y: The Mysterious Island (1997) (56975004) 5.45 Home Alone (1997) (56305269) 7.30 Barry Mutrato: En Mente 1997 8 of Speed He Norman's Film Night (6827) 8.00 Speed La Croise Control (1997) (56288) 10.00 Con Air (1997) (97004) 13.00 The Leeding Man (1996) (781486) 1.40am Home for the Holidays (1995) (255047) 3.25 the Holidays (1995) (255047) 3.25 Vampines in Venice (1996) (68577863)

SKY MOVIEMAX

5.20am Preeze Frame (1992) (72119627) 7.00 Bionie Everafter (1994) (87795) 9.00 Susie Q (TVM 1996) (53240) 11.00 Love

is Strange (1996) (53462) 1.00 Bionic Everafter (1994) (64356) 6.00 Susie Q (TVM 1996) (52882) 6.00 Amorel (1993) (58617) 7.00 Love is Strange (1996) (59207) 8.30 E! News Week (3801) 5.00 National Lampoor's Ded's Week Oil (1996) (57917) 11.00 Murder et 1600 (1997) (134576) 12.50am False Pretanse (1997) (658573) 2.25 Don't Be a Mendot to South Central White Drinking Your Juice in the Hood (1995) (1253009) 3.55 Scambers If: New Order (1990) (771757) SKY CINEMA

4.00pm Swiss Miss (1938) (7258801) 6.00 Tarzan and the Amazons (1945) (2009022) 8.00 92 in the Shade (1975) (7246337) 12.00 Champion (1133912) 1.40am Irene (134037) 1.40em irene (1940) (88443963) 2.15 The House of Feer (1945) (30261467) 4.20 My Little Chickadee (1938) (5001931)

FILMFOUR 6.00pm L'Accompagnatrice (1992) 18336056) 8.00 Gloris (1990) (8393511) 10.00 Leon (1994) (7273240) 11.55 The Bonfire of the Vanides (1990) (1362733) 1.55am Sapphire Room (4950318) 2.15 Cabaret (1972) (53529573) 4.20 Music of Chance (1993) (3182950) 6.00 Close

9.00pm Captain Blood (1935) (48653117) 11.15 Cincinnati Kid (1965) (97032337) 1.15am The Liquidator (1968) (71075650) 3.00 Captain Blood (1935) (84522405) 5.00 Close SKY SPORTS 1

7.00em Sports Centre 7.15 Wrestling 8.15
You're On Sky Sports' 9.00 Racing News
9.30 Aerobics 10.00 Inside Scottish Footbal 11.00 Rugby League Academy 13.00
Aerobics 12.30pm Snooker 2.30 Festras
3.00 Inside Scottish Footbell 4.00 Watersports 5.00 Wrestling 8.00 Sports Centre sports 5.00 Wresting 8.00 Sports Centre 6.30 Unbelievable Sports 7.00 Live Scottish Football 10.00 Sports Centre 10.15 You're On Sky Sportst 11.00 World Pool 13.00 Sports Centre 12.15em You're On Sky Sportst 1.00 Rugby League 2.30 Scottish Football 4.30 Sports Centre 4.45 Close

SKY SPORTS 2 7.00em Aerobics 7.30 Sports Centre 7.45 Racing News 8.15 Fastres 8.45 Sports

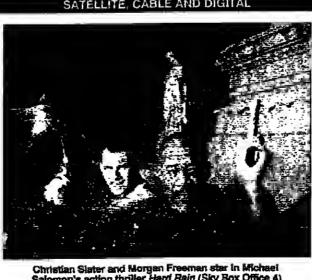
Centre 9.00 Fish TV 10.00 Sports Unlimited 11.00 Motor Cross 13.00 Ten Pin Bowling 1.00pts Goff Edira 2.30 Live International One-Day Chokel 10.30 Golf Edira 12.00 Australian Rafly Chempionship 12.30em European Tour Goff Weeldy 1.00 Watersports World 3.00 World Pool League 8.00 Sports Centre 3.15 Close SKY SPORTS 3

12.00mm World Wresting Federation: Shotgun 1.00pm Fish TV 2.00 Takes From the Premiership 2.30 Boung Superbouts 3.30 World Moror Sport 6.30 Golf Edra 8.00 Australian Fishy Championship 8.30 Rugby League World 16.00 FA Cup Final Classics 11.30 Close

EUROSPORT 7.30em Football 0.00 Football 16.00 Cart 11.00 Golf 13.00 Tennis 12.30pm Live Cycling 3.00 Tennis 4.00 Live Football 6.00 Start Your Engines 7.00 Live Football 8.00 Weightling 11.00 Start Your Engines 12.00 Trial Bilang 12.30emt Close UK GOLD_

7 norm Crossroads 7.30 Naighbours 7.55 7.00am Crossroots 7.30 Negrocus 7.30 EastEnciens 8.30 The Bit 0.00 The Bit 6.30 The House of Eliot 10.30 Proofs 11.00 Deles 11.55 Negribours 12.25pm EastEnciers 1.00 Bugs 2.00 Deless 2.55 The Bit 3.25 The Bit 3.55 EastEnciers 4.30 The 8a 3.25 The 8a 2.55 EastEnders 4.30 Rhods 5.00 Ait Creatures Great and Small 6.00 Dynasty 7.00 Some Mothers Do 'Ave 'Em 7.40 Last of the Summer Wire 9.20 Dad's Army 9.00 Men Behaving Badly 9.40 Men Behaving Badly 10.20 Harrish Macheth 11.25 The 8al 11.55 The 8al 12.25sm Between the Lines 1.20 Dad's Army 1.55 The Man From Aurille 2.25 The Man From Aurille 2.25 The Man From Aurille 2.25 The Man From Aurille 3.00 Screenshop

GRANADA PLUS 6.00em Wish Me Luck 7.00 How's Your Farher? 7.30 The Odd Couple 8.00 Farhilles 9.30 Mind Your Language 9.00 Classic Coronation Street 9.30 Emmerdale 18.00 Upstairs, Downstairs 11.00 Charles's 18.00 Lipislars, Downstans 11.00 Charle's Angels 12.00 Classic Coronation Street 12.80pm Emmerciale 1.00 Mind Your Lenguage 1.00 Me and My Gat 2.00 Lipislars, Downsters 3.00 The Love Boar 4.00 The Professionals 3.00 Charle's Angels 0.00 Emmerciale 6.30 Classic Coronation Street 7.00 The Professionals 8.00 The Berny Hill Show 9.80 The Surenay 16.00 Hale and Pace 10.90 The Coronations 11.00 Men and Matters Base House 2.45 New Adventures of Winnie the Pooh 3.00 The Little Mermaid 3.30 Art Attack 4.00 101 Daimations 4.30 Hercules 8.00 Recess 5.15 Pepper Ann 5.30 Smart



Christian Slater and Morgan Freeman star in Michael Salomon's action thriller Hard Rain (Sky Box Office 4)

CAPILTON SELECT

5.00pm What's Cooking? 5.38 Gndock Shine On, Harvey Moon 5.00 Blues and Twos 6.30 Superchets 9.00 Solder, Soldier 10.00 Ple in the Sky 11.00 Hill Streef Blues 12.00 My Two Wwes 12.30am Gridlock DISNEY CHANNEL

6.00am Gummi Beers 6.25 Classic Toons 8.00am Gummi Reers 6.25 Classic Toors 6.35 Talespan 7.00 101 Derinations 7.25 Classic Toors 7.30 101 Derinations 8.00 Timon and Pumbas 8.25 Classic Tooris 6.30 Timon and Pumbas 9.00 Heroules. The TV Show 9.30 Heroules 10.00 Boy Meets World 10.30 Boy Meets World 11.90 Smatt Guy 11.00 Smart Guy 13.00 Disney on Demand 12.30pm Disney on Demand 1.00 Disney on Demand 1.00 Amazing Annais 1.53 New Adventures of Wirnise the Policy 10.00 Size 2.20 Bear in the Big Bug House 2.45 New Adventures of Wirnise Guy 6.00 Teen Angel 6.30 Boy Meets World 7.00 FILM: A Gooty Movie (1995) 8.15 Honey (Strunk the Kids: The TV Show 9.00 Dinosaus 10.00 Home Improvement 10.30 The Wonder Years 11.00 Touched by an Angel 11.50 Classic Tooris 13.00 Close FOX KIDS NETWORK

8.00am Power Rangers Turbo 6.55 Spiderman 7.20 Oggy and the Cook-reaches 7.00 Dervis and Grasher 8.00 Hero Turtes 8.25 The Incredible Hulk 8.50 Hero Turties 8.25 The Incredible Hulk 6.50 from Man 8.15 Fartastic Four 9.40 X-Men 10.05 Casper 10.30 Oggy and the Cockrosches 16.55 EestStravagerta 11.05 Bobby's World 11.30 Life with Love 11.55 Horne to Rent 12.05pm The Secret Files of the Sop Dogs 12.30 Donkey Kong Courtly 1.00 Mowga The New Adventures of the Jungle Book 1.25 Ace Ventura 1.55 Tho Incredible Hulk 2.20 from Man 2.45 Eartaste Four 9.10 Village 3.00 Village 3.00 X-Mem Fartastic Four 3.10 X-Men 3.30 X-Press 3.35 Spiderman 4.00 Goosebumps 4.25 Here Tunies 5.00 Dennis and Gresher 5.30 Ace Ventura 6.00 Donkey Kong Country 8.30 Eek/Surveganza 6.55 Oggy and the Cookroaches 7.00 Close

NICKELODEON 6.00em Extreme Ghostbusters 8.30 Bruno the IQd 7.50 Cerbog 7.30 Rugrats 6.00 Hey Amold 8.30 Doug 9.00 Chatcher's BBC 16.00 Winner's House 10.30 Papa Beaver Stortes 11.00 The Magic School Bus 11.30 PB Bear etc 13.00 Rugrats 12.30 pm Blue's Cluss 1.00 Bananas in Pyjamas 1.30 Frankin 2.00 Paddington Bear/Loze's Library etc 2.30 Chatcher's BBC 3.30 Coug 4.00 Angry Beavers 4.30 Rugrats 3.00 Cities Certa 5.30 House 1.64 6.00

4.00 Angry Beavers 4.30 Rugrais 3.00 Slatar Satar 5.30 Nanari and Kel 6.00 Sabrina the Teenage Witch 8.30 The Secret Life of Alex Mack 7.00 Close TROUBLE 7.00am USA High 7.30 City Guys 6.00 Saved By The Belt: The New Class 6.30 Hang Time 9.00 Tempesti 9.50 On the Make 10.00 Entin Point 10.30 Hollyceks 11.00 Sweet Valley High 11.30 Ready or Not 12.00 The Fresh Prince of 86-Air 12.30pm Werd Science 1.00 in the House 1.00 Tempesti 2.20 On the Make 2.30 Hollyceks 3.00 Ready Or Not 3.30 City Care 5.00 The Fresh Prince of 88-Air 4.30 City Care 5.00 The Fresh Prince Of 88-Air 4.30 City Care 5.00 The Fresh Prince Of 88-Air 4.30 City Care 5.00 The Fresh Prince Of 88-Air 4.30 City Care 5.00 The Fr

Guys 5.00 The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air 4.30

Guys 5.00 The Fresh Prince of Beh-RI 4.30 Waird Science 5.00 in the House 9.30 Sweet Valley High 6.30 Blast 7.00 USA High 7.30 Hang Time **BRAVO** 8.00pm Martial Law 8.00 Cops 9.30 The Late Lourge 18.00 Extreme Championship Wresting 10.30 Erotic Confessions 11.00 FILM: Supervisors (1975) 1.00em Erotic Conlessons 1.30 The Late Lounge 2.00 Mariel Law 3.00 FILM; Cithultru Mension (1991) 5.00 Externe Championship Wrestling 5.30 Cops 6.00 Clase

PARAMOUNT COMEDY 7.00pm Cluetess 7.30 Caroline in the City 8,00 Mad About You 8.30 Spin City 8.00 Drap the Dead Donkey 9.30 Whose Line is il Anyway? 10.00 Frasier 10.30 Cheers 11.00 Seateld 11.30 Spin City 12.00 Late Night with David Letterman 1.00em Gany Shandang's Show 1.30 Nimess 2.00 Almost Perfect 2.20 Tits and Fibs 3.00 Mork and Perfect 2.30 Tibs and Fibs 3.00 Mork and

THE SCI-FI CHANNEL SATELLITE: Born-MEDNIGHT ONLY 7.30am Bloomberg Information Television 6.00 Sightings 9.00 Bethister Galactica 16.00 The Str Mittion Doller Men 11.00 Dark

Hardy 3.30 Abbott and Costello 4.00 Close

Shedows 11.30 The Ray Brackury Theatre
13.00 The Twilght Zone 12.30pm The
Twilght Zone 1.00 Tales of the Unexpected
1.30 Tales of the Unexpected 2.00
Amazing Stories 2.30 Mystenes, Magic and
Miracles 3.00 Battlestar Galactica 4.00 The
Incredible Hub. 5.00 Springs 6.00 Space
Precinct 7.00 The Sk Million Dollar Man
8.00 VR5 9.00 Leo 10.00 Fil.Ni: Lord of
Mixelone (1995) 13.00 PSI Factor. Musions (1995) 13.00 PSI Factor. Chronicles of the Paranormal 1.00am Fil.M: Memory Parn (1994) 2.40 Sci-Focus Special 3.00 Dark Shadows 3.30

HOME & LEISURE

6.00sm Simply Pointing 6.30 Instant Gardens 7.00 Gerden Calendar 7.30 The Restoration Game 8.00 Australia's Restoration Game 8.00 Australe's Strangest Home Improvements 8.30 The Close Guide 9.00 The Joy of Pahring 0.30 Grassroots 16.00 Instant Gardens 10.30 Antiques Trail 11.00 Hooked on Fishing with Paul Young 11.25 The Home and Lesure House 11.30 Total Fishing with Matt Hayes 12.00 These Four Walls 12.30pm Our House Down Under 1.00 The Furniture Care 1.10 blome Sance 2.00 May Variable Care 1.10 blome Sance 2.00 May Variable 9.00 Fishing Var Guys 1.30 Home Savvy 2.00 New Yankee 3.30 Two's Country DISCOVERY

4,00pm Rex Hunt Fishing Adventures 4.30 The Diceman 6.00 Connections 6.00 Wildfite SOS 6.30 Unlamed Amazonia 7.30 Flightline 8.00 Yugoslavia - The Death of a Nation 11.00 Lost Treasures of the Ancient World 12.00 Three Gorges: The Biggest Dam in the World 1.00am Flightline 1.30 The Oceanan 3.00 Close

ANIMAL PLANET 12.00em Hollywood Salan 1.00em The Blue Beyond 2.00 The Blue Beyond 3.00 Rescuing Baby Whales 4.00 A Dolphin's Destiny 5.00 Widdlie Rescue 6.00 Pet Rescue 7.00 Wildlie SOS 8.00 Animal

Doctor 8,00 Emergency Vets 9.30 Emergency Vets 18.00 Emergency Vets 18.00 Emergency Vets 18.00 Emergency Vets 11.30 Emergency Vets 11.30 Emergency Vets 12.00 Close NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC 7.00pm The Mountain Sculptors 7.30 Gorita 8.30 Fire and Thunder 9.00 Warmors: of the Warnor 11.00 Buddha on the Sik.

HISTORY

4.00pm Vietnam: Alpha Strike 5.00 Classic Cars: GT-40 6.00 Cannibalism The Most Ancient Taboo 6.55 Photos for the Future 7.00 Pol Pot 7.55 Photos for the Future CARLTON FOOD

9.00am Food Network Daily 9.30 Coxon's 9.00am Food Network Daily 9.30 Coxon's Kitchen College 16.00 From the Ground Up 10.30 So You Trink You Can Cook 11.00 Worrall Thompson Cooks 11.30 Ideal Home Cooks 12.00 Food Network Daily 12.30pm A Year al Ballymaloe 1.00 Coxon's Kitchen College 1.30 Turner's Tour of Hong Kong 2.00 Miridula's Indian Kitchen 2.30 Food Network Daily 3.00 Loyd's Loussans 3.30 Ideal Home Cooks 4.00 Thoroughly Modern Brosh 4.30 Simply Baling 3.00 Close

LIVING

6.00am Can't Cook, Won't Cook 6.30 Animal Rescue 7.00 Professor Bubble 7.30 Polka Dot Shorts 7.40 Johnson and Friends 7.50 Babaloos 7.55 Practical Parenting 8.00 Barney and Friends 8.25 My Zoo 8.30 Tiny and Crew 8.50 Practical Parenting 9.00 Special Babies 9.30 Home and Away 10.00 The Jerry Soringer Show 10.50 Maury Powch 11.40 Brookside 12.10pm Through the Keyhola 12.40 Rescue 911 1.10 Beyond Belief, Fact or Fiction 1.40 Maury Powch 2.30 Special Bables 3.00 Living Room 3.50 Michael Cole 4.00 Home and Away 5.10 Through the Keyhole 5.40 Can't Cook, Won't Cook 8.15 The Jerry Springer Show 7.05 Rescue 911 7.35 Animal Rescue 8.00 LA Law 9.00 FiLM: Colour Me Perfect (1996) 11.00 Sextasyl 13.00 Close

ZEE TV

5.00am Lolly Pop 5.30 Hey Ha Ho 6.00 Out and About 6.30 Yoodie Ap-Oo 7.00 Faith 7.30 News 6.00 India Business Report 8.30 Tara 6.00 Rishrey The Love Stories 10.00 Integuab 11.00 Chootborn 11.30 Parampara 12.00 Pil.M: Urdiu Movie: Shema 3.00pm Zee Bangia 3.30 Hum Paranch 4.00 Falm! Chaitzar 4.30 Et Minute 5.00 Jungle Book 5.30 Mausam 6.00 Top of the Tops 6.00 Banegi April Baar 7.00 Baas Barn Jaye 7.30 h's My Choice 8.00 Baat Bari Jaye 7.30 h's My Choice 8.00 News 9.30 Amanat 9.00 Urbu Drams 16.00 lide Pe Idia 10.30 Woh 11.00 Puruksherra 12.00 News 12.30am Tandoon Masala 1.00 Bengla TV 1.00 Parmert an 2.00 FILM: Movile: Madhepur Ne Nele 4.30 Nersayo

The running men who will make the marathon a sprint

SP()RT

SIMON BARNES 42

Why a sporting life can be bad for your health



The Times of the

WEDNESDAY APRIL 14 1999

Arsenal strengthened for replay

Petit returns from ban on red alert

By MATT DICKINSON

EMMANUEL PETIT insists that he will not optoe through his return to English football tonight, but then he has linle choice. Only one team can survive the impact when Arsenal and Manchester United collide in their FA Cup semi-final replay at Villa Park, so there will be no time for the Frenchman to make gradual reacquaintance.

"Don't watch it alone," was Alex Ferguson's advice and the United manager's warning raises the question of whether this is the ideal stage for Petit to reappear after his third suspension of a fractured and fractious season. The Arsenal midfield player, as he admitted yesterday, is incapa-ble of resisting a 50-50 tackle and there will be plenty of those against Roy Keane.

His desire to return has burnt so deep, though, that part of him secretly celebrated the 0-0 draw on Sunday and the opportunity of a replay. He is adamant that he has not only recovered peak fitness but also that he has banished the confusion that had made him question his future at Highbury. No, he said, he would not walk away from English football in the summer, as he had threatened in the immediate aftermath of most recent dismissal.

against Everton. No, he was

not afraid of English referees.
"It's true that I tried to give my shirt to the referee after the Everton match and said I was finished with the game here, but I will stay at Arsenal next season," Peol said. "I was very upset because I had just one red card in France in ten years and now I have had four in England, so you can imagine how I felt when I got the last one. I had made only two fouls in the whole game.

"II won't change how I play.

Riverside players

but it is very difficult for referees now in games with Arsenal. We are not a dirty team, but when there is a foul, the whole ground puts intense pressure on the referee and if he is not a strong man, he will give out cards."

probable replacement.

even one trophy.

"Goals always tend to dry

up at this stage of the season." he said. "You are never going

to get runaway victories, but

players have been consistenly brilliant, finishing first and

second in the league over the years, and that speaks vol-

umes for what a great team we

"This is the sort of situation we have been working at for

years and the players are enjoying it. It is a good time for them and you can only be jealous that they are playing

The fact that both teams

practised penalties yesterday

would suggest that the manag-

ers are expecting another tight

and you are not.

Fears that Petit might use his repeated clashes with authority as an excuse to leave Arsenal for Spain or Italy had been widespread at Highbury. but Arsène Wenger appears to have used all his persuasive charms to lift his compatriot from his depression. "A com-petitive guy who does not have competition gets sick," the

Manchester United have falled to beat, Arsenal in six matches dating back to November 1997.

Radio: Radio 5 Live

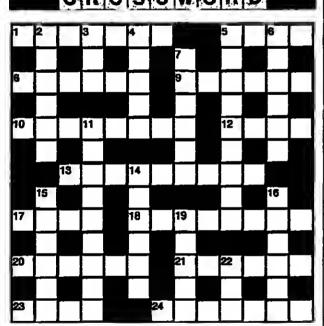
Arsenal manager said, "and Petit needs competition to be happy.
"I can understand why. when you are in a foreign country and you keep coming back and then getting suspended again, that life is very difficult. But the fans have done as much as me to persuade him A combination of suspen-sion and ankle injury has meant that Petit has started only two of the past 12 games and his return will compensate Arsenal for the likely absence of Marc Overmars, who will have a fitness test this morning on a sore ankle. Fred-erik Ljungberg, rather than Nelson Vivas, whose dismissal on Sunday spoilt an otherwise excellent display, is his Ferguson also hinted at changes yesterday, but it is unlikely that he will rest too many players until the FA Carling Premiership match against Sheffield Wednesday on Saturday. Paul Scholes may return in place of Nicky Butt, while Jesper Blomqvist is putting pressure on Ryan Giggs, but the defence is likely to remain unchanged, with Denis Irwin fit after sustaining an injury at Villa Park. The United attack must breach an Arsenal defence that has not conceded a goal for 673 minutes and Ferguson's strikers are not in prolific form. Dwight Yorke has not scored for six games and Andy Cole for five, which is a drought by their standards. However, Ferguson looked far from worried yesterday, shrug-ging off suggestions that his side's attempt at a treble may leave them too tired to secure

Boon, the Durham captain, who arrived recently in the North East after a summer in Australia, practises his catching skills by juggling with snowballs on the outfield at the Riverside. Photograph: Stuart Outterside

Aug 9 1998 Charity Shield Sep 20 1998 Feb 17 1999 Apr 11 1999 O (act) FA Cup s/final

Television: Sky Sports 2, 7pm

TIMES



No 1691

ACROSS I Moral campaign: religious

5 A square meast tacked by ts (4) 8 Forge (6)

9 Pressing (6) t0 (Eg Churchill's) depression 12 Cry loudly: sounds like

dance (4) 13 Opening in battlement (9) [7 Ill-mannered person (4) 18 Japanese beef dish (8)

20 (Trap) closed: helped to escape (from prison) (6) 21 Strongly criticise (6) 23 Detained (4)

24 Prolonged (7)

DOWN 2 Low sound; see through (trick) (slang) (6) 3 (Complete) group of like

4 Tree spirit (5) 5 Noisy wrangle (4-5) 6 Fame (6) 7 Organism as eg rust, yeast (6) 11 Pop in: be persuaded (4.5]

14 Give up (post) (6) 15 Pair 16) 16 Rough drawing (6) 19 Oxford Movement leader. Ox. college (5)

22 Fix up (fraudulently): outfit

SOLUTION TO NO 1690 ACROSS: 1 Abandon 5 Verve 8 Circa 9 Twelfth 10 Indolent II Blur 13 Encyclopaedia 16 July 17 Wretched 20 Afghani 21 Liven 22 Sleek 23 Essence DOWN: 1 Ascribe 2 Acrid 3 Deadlock 4 Not on your life 5 Veer 6 Ruffled 7 Ether 12 Nautilus 14 Cologne 15 Al denie 16 Jeans 18 Haven 19 Bask

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Winter mocks early starters

SNOW, two inches of it, prevented any play at Chester-le-Street between Durham and Worcestershire yesterday as winter returned with a vengeance to bite into the earliest start to any county champion-

game. It may be late into the ship cricket season. night before Newcastle United discover who they will be fac-ing in the FA Cup final at Wembley on May 22. Norman Gifford, the Durham coach, who has been involved at first-class level for 42 vears, was dumbfounded. "I ARSENAL (probable, 4.4-2), O Seaman — L Doon, M Keown, T Adams, N Winterburn — II Parlour P Vierra, E Peor, F Ljungberg — O Berghamp N Artella have never seen snow like that on any English ground." he said. "When I arrived at — O Berglamp N Ancha MANCHESTER UNITED (probable, 44-2) P Schmechel — G Nerde, R Johnsen J Stam, D Inten — O Bedchem, R Keane, P Scholes R Gogs — D Yorke, A Colon 8.30am, everything was ready for a prompt start. Within two

hours, the ground was com-

damaging dispute with Fergus

BY MICHAEL AUSTIN

pletely white. I have seen April snow flurries, but they have always cleared quickly." As upset as anyone was David Measor, the Durham head groundsman, who had prepared bis first championship pitch since taking over from Tom Flintoft, who had been in charge since the county's elevation to first-class sta-

tus seven years ago.
Ironically, in Durham's inaugural match that season, snow caused an interruption against Oxford University in

the Parks, although the most famous modern instance of snow stopping play came in the game between Derbyshire and Lancashire at Buxton 24 years ago - but that was in

The late Ashley Harvey-Walker, of Derbyshire, handed his false teeth to the umpire because the pitch was becoming dangerous.

Not unexpectedly, there was also a blank day at Old Trafford, where Lancashire are playing host to Sussex.

County reports, page 41

Larsson's decision is as

much prompted by lifestyle as

Celtic secure Larsson's future

BY PHIL GORDON

CELTIC demonstrated their willingness yesterday to compete with the wealthiest clubs in Europe by securing Henrik Larsson, the leading goalscorer, on a new four-year contract. It will make the Sweden player the wealthiest in Celt-

ic's history. Larsson, 27. has signed with the Scottish champions until 2003 for a reported salary of El.3 million a year, an act of faith by Celtic that is at odds with the club's tradition of be-

ing parsimonious. Larsson's 37 goals this season had attracted widespread interest from around the Continent, including Tottenham Hostpur and Manchester United, of the FA Carling Premiership, who were all mindful that he was about to enter the last year of his existing con-

tract. For a club that has failed to retain any of its key players over the past two decades, the loss of Larsson would have been a blow that extended far beyond the pitch. It would have sent out the signal that Celtic, unlike Rangers, were still willing to cut corners

when it came to rewarding its McCann, the then-chairman, players. In the past, Kenny Dalglish, Charlie Nicholas who refused to meet their de-mands for a £25,000-per-man and Brian McClair multiplied bonus for reaching the Europetheir Parkhead salaries by goan Cup Champions' League group stage. However, Allan MacDonald, the club's new ing to Liverpool, Arsenal and Manchester United respective-ly. Similarly, Pierre van Hooij-donk and Paolo Di Canio left managing director, who took control only last week after Mcin 1997, when the envy of Eng-Cann. the majority shareholdlish salaries became too great. Earlier this season, Celtic's er, departed for tax exile, indicated that the club is undergoplayers were embroiled in a

ing a sea change. I quickly understood that the team is the most important thing at the club," MacDonald said. "Getting quality players is our most important objective. I had to instil order where there was perhaps a perceived disorder and Henrik is the foundation stone upon which I would like to build the team,"

Recent reports claimed that Larsson had been given a take it-or-leave it offer by Mc-Cann, which is not the way to approach the single-minded Swede. Larsson took his previous club. Feyencord, to court in order to win his cut-price £650,000 transfer to Celtic in

money and he was fearful of Brian Laudrup's admission that he made a mistake in leaving Glasgow to join Chelsea from Rangers last year. "Why go somewhere else when I am perfectly happy here?" Larsson said. "My family have come to love Scotland and are settled here. The quality of life here makes this the right decision. It was a big decision to make, because I will be 32 when this contract ends. However. Celtic is a very big club and has the potential to be even bigger."

Larsson's news somewhat overshadowed the arrival in Glasgow yesterday of Rangers' latest signing. Claudio Reyna, the United States midfield player, who has signed a four-year contract after his El.2million transfer from the German club, Vfl Wolfsburg. Reyna will be unable to play in the Scottish Cup final next month against Celtic, but hopes to contribute to the push to regain the championship.

Sprint finish, page 40

Bradley charged in racing inquiry

By Stewart Tendler and Alan Lee

AFTER two years of speculation and dramatic arrests by Scotland Yard detectives, involving a number of leading figures in horse-racing, a jock-ey was charged yesterday. The rider concerned is Graham Bradley, 38, the senior jumps jockey, who is accused of con-

spiracy to cheat.

He was released on police bail and will appear at Bow Street Magistrates Court today accused of preventing his mount, Man Mood, from winning a two-runner handicap chase at Warwick in Novem-ber, 1996. Man Mood, the 7-4 on favourite, was pulled up. A stewards' inquiry accepted Bradley's explanation that the horse lost his action due to a

wind ailment.
Bradley has been charged under the Criminal Law Act 1977. He is accused of conspiring with others to win bets on the race by fraud and agreeing that Man Mood would not

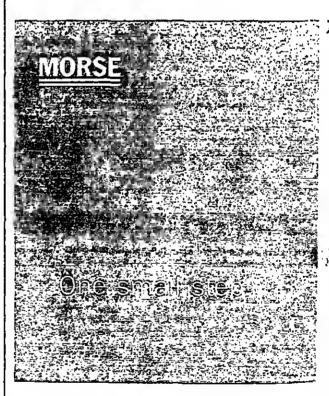
In a 21-year National Huni career, Bradley has won many of the leading races, including the Cheltenham Gold Cup in 1983, on Bregawn, and the Champion Hurdle in 1996, on

Collier Bay. He now also faces a review of his rider's licence by the Jockey Club.

Bradley, stable jockey at the Uplands yard once owned by Fred Winter, rode Suny Bay in the Grand National last Saturday. Hewas arrested at his home in Sparsholt, Oxford-shire, in January in the latest in a series of police raids. Ray Cochrane, a Flat jockey, and Charlie Brooks, trainer of Man Mood, were also arrested. Cochrane was eliminated from police inquiries last month and Brooks was released without charge yester-day after earlier being freed on

Last year, police arrested three other jockeys — Dean Gallagher, Leighton Aspell and Jamie Osborne. They have also been released with-

out charge. Today, five men accused of conspiracy to defraud by doppear at Bow Street. They are accused of "interference with the running of horses in horse-racing by the administration of a performance-inhibiting



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Larsson: happy in Scotland